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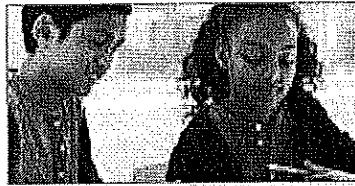
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From: Education Week
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2016 8:37 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: EdWeek Update: Indiana Testing Woes Fuel Electoral Battles

Your daily education news and insight for October 6, 2016. [View as web page.](#)



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EDWEEK UPDATE

Appraising Trump's School Choice, Child-Care Plans

While advocates and experts are pleased GOP nominee Donald Trump has weighed in on those topics, many of them question the specifics or want more detail. [Read more.](#)



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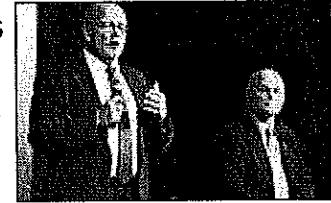
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Indiana Testing Woes Fuel Electoral Battles

Political heartburn continues in the Hoosier State over high-stakes assessments, with the issue spilling over into this year's contests for governor and state schools superintendent. [Read more.](#)

(*Education Week*)



OPINION

Poverty Matters, But Not the Way You Think

Research has shown us that poverty has a large impact on students. However, poverty actually has a more profound impact on schools and parents, writes Peter DeWitt. [Read more.](#)

(*Finding Common Ground*)

Advertisement



A special report, "Applying Best Practices For Effective Vocabulary Instruction," identifies how schools can implement a research-based program for effective vocabulary building and retention, key to comprehension. Download the report from VocabularySpellingCity and McREL International.

Looking for More Support, New Teachers Turn to Online Communities

To supplement their school- or district-provided mentoring, many novice teachers are seeking support from online and social media communities. [Read more.](#)

(Teacher)

- [Read the Full Report: Helping New Teachers Thrive](#)



Finland's Education Minister Discusses New National Curriculum and PISA Scores

Finland is rolling out a new national curriculum this fall that focuses on multi-disciplinary learning. *Education Week* sat down with the Finnish Minister of Education to discuss the roll-out, an investment in teacher education, and the upcoming PISA scores. [Read more.](#)

(Curriculum Matters)

TopSchoolJobs

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MORE NEWS

Thousands of U.S. Schools at Risk for PCB Contamination, Studies Find

(Inside School Research)

Corporal Punishment in School: More Evidence Shows Decline Across States

(Inside School Research)

In Bid for Congress, Democrat Juneau Stresses Her Rejection of Obama Policies

(*Politics K-12*)

Oklahoma Teachers Running for Office Appear on NewsHour

(*State EdWatch*)

Maine Gov. LePage Wants Locals to Pay More Education Costs

(*State EdWatch*)

ISO: Teacher Input on Teaching 'MacBeth' in a Digital Era

(*Curriculum Matters*)

Study: 9th and 10th Grades Offer Key Chance to Re-Engage Disengaged Students

(*High School & Beyond*)

Cleveland Teachers, School Board Reject Contract

(*Teacher Beat*)

MORE VIEWS

How to End Teacher Shortages. Really.

(*Top Performers*)

Culture, Change, and the Hiring Process

(*Leadership 360*)

Why You Should Learn to Love Educational Productivity

(Rick Hess Straight Up)

Missing My Former Students and Former Program

(Work in Progress)

A Classroom Strategy: The Work of Play (Video)

(Inspired Instruction: Videos From the Teaching Channel)

U.S. Department of Education Announces TIF 5 Awards

(K-12 Talent Manager)

MOST POPULAR STORIES

- 1. Taking a Stand: How Schools Should Respond to National-Anthem Protests**
- 2. Kansas Governor: State Would Have to Raise Taxes if It Loses Supreme Court Case (State EdWatch Blog)**
- 3. The Costs of Teacher Collective Bargaining (Rick Hess Straight Up Blog)**
- 4. No Child Left Behind Overview: Definitions, Requirements, Criticisms, and More**
- 5. The Empathy Gap and How to Fill It (Commentary)**

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- + [Elementary Bilingual Teachers](#) Bridgeton Board of Education, Bridgeton, NJ
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From: Education Week
Sent: Friday, October 7, 2016 8:05 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: EdWeek Update: New Teachers Make Up a Significant Segment of Profession

Your daily education news and insight for October 7, 2016. View as web page.

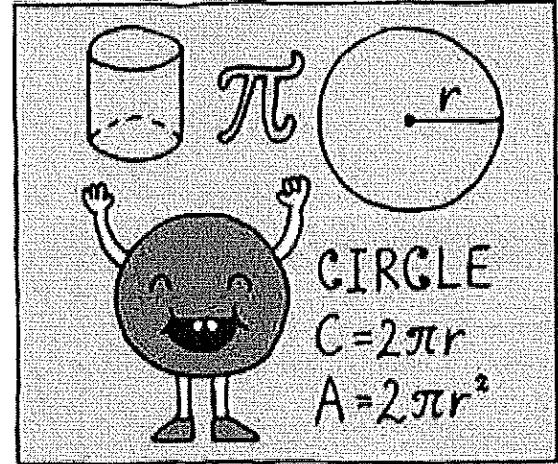
The advertisement features a black banner at the top with white text: "LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2016" and "October 28-30 • San Diego, CA". To the right is a photo of two diverse individuals, one smiling. Below the banner, the word "EDWEEK" is written in large, bold, block letters, with "UPDATE" to its right. At the bottom left, there's a small "EDUCATION WEEK" logo. On the right side, there's text: "Empowering Leadership Teams, Inspiring Students... REGISTER NOW", followed by the "International Center for Leadership in Education" logo and the text "A Division of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt".

COMMENTARY

How to Bring Math Into Students' Real Lives

We must teach kids that math extends beyond the classroom, writes Baltimore Ravens offensive lineman and mathematician John Urschel. [Read more.](#)

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New Teachers Make Up a Significant Segment of Profession

New data show that 12 percent of all U.S. public school teachers are in their first or second year, raising questions about the overall stability of the teaching force. [Read more.](#)

(*Education Week*)



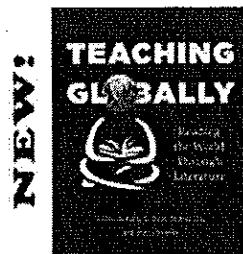
Induction Program for New Science Teachers Starts With Exploration (Video)

The Exploratorium's Teacher Induction Program aims to keep new teachers in the classroom by offering access to scientific inquiry and the support of a professional community. [Read more.](#)

(*Teacher*)

- [Read the Full Report: Helping New Teachers Thrive](#)

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Connect your students to the world with [Teaching Globally](#). You'll get specific strategies on how to use children's literature to help students explore their own cultural identities in both ELA and social studies. Includes extensive book recommendations, online resources, and strategies for classroom dialogue. [Preview the entire book!](#)

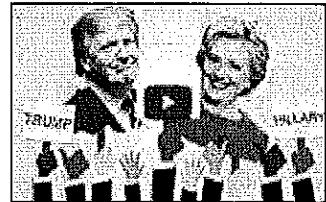
EXPLAINER

What Clinton and Trump Have Said About Education (Video)

The Politics K-12 team discusses the two leading presidential candidates' positions on school choice, the Common Core State Standards, and teachers.

[Read more.](#)

(*Education Week*)



9 Ohio Cybers Could Be Forced to Repay More Than \$80M After Attendance Audits

Audits of student login and software-usage records at nine Ohio cyber charters found the schools could not justify the full-time attendance of thousands of students. [Read more.](#)

(*Digital Education*)

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Fort Smith Public Schools Superintendent

Fort Smith Public Schools, located in Arkansas, seeks an individual with visionary leadership and strong administrative skills to lead a district of over 14,000 students. The salary will be in the range of \$210,000 plus an excellent comprehensive benefits package. [Apply today.](#)



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MORE NEWS

'Scary Clown' Rumors Are Serious Business for Schools

(*Rules for Engagement*)

Students of All Races Prefer Teachers of Color, Study Finds

(*Teaching Now*)

City-Based Prekindergarten Officials Meet in N.Y.C. to Share Experiences

(*Early Years*)

Teachers Review 'Promising' Digital Tools for English/Language Arts Instruction

(Curriculum Matters)

Study Profiles Maker-Space Educators and Their Needs

(Digital Education)

Nonprofit Receives \$1M Grant to Help Support Social, Emotional Learning

(Time and Learning)

'Middle School' Movie Is Fun for Students, and a Sticky Situation for Principals

(Education and the Media)

MORE VIEWS

Soft Skills Are the Latest Job of Schools

(Walt Gardner's Reality Check)

Project-Based Learning as Mindset

(EdTech Researcher)

Learning About Identity: A Student's Case for Ethnic Studies

(The Intersection: Culture and Race in Schools)

MOST POPULAR STORIES

- 1. Taking a Stand: How Schools Should Respond to National-Anthem Protests**
 - 2. Kansas Governor: State Would Have to Raise Taxes if It Loses Supreme Court Case**
- (State EdWatch Blog)*

- 3. The Costs of Teacher Collective Bargaining (Rick Hess Straight Up Blog)**
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From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:21 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: House Journal Summary - Nov. 10, 2016

House Journal Summary
TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH DAY
(Nonvoting Session)
November 10, 2016

INTRODUCED

- HB614** PORT AUTHORITY-VIDEO CONFERENCE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Rick Perales) To allow airport and port authorities to conduct meetings by video conference and teleconference.
- HCR36** COMMODORE PERRY-MISSILE DESTROYER (Rep. Michael Sheehy, Rep. Bob Cupp) To urge the Secretary of the Navy to name a guided missile destroyer vessel the O.H. Perry, in honor of Commodore Perry who fought in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812.
- HCR37** CONGRESS-REGULATION FREEDOM AMENDMENT (Rep. Margaret Conditt, Rep. Bill Patmon) To urge Congress to propose the Regulation Freedom Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
- HR503** CONGRESS-CORPORATE PERSONHOOD (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Nickie Antonio) To call on legislators at the state and federal level and other communities and jurisdictions to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would abolish corporate personhood and the doctrine of money as speech.
- HR510** OPIOID ABUSE-PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY (Rep. Greta Johnson, Rep. Denise Driehaus) To urge the Governor to declare that the increasing prevalence of opioid abuse is a public health emergency and to direct available state resources to support prevention and treatment efforts.
- HR539** CONDOLENCE-CHARLES RICHARD BRADING (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger) In memory of Charles Richard Brading.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

- HB566** NURSERY STOCK-LABELING (Rep. Dan Ramos) To prohibit the labeling and advertising of nursery stock as pollinator beneficial under specified conditions.
- HB607** WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Michael Sheehy) To require the Director of Agriculture to adopt rules establishing the Ohio Water Quality Improvement Program, to exempt land enrolled in the Program from taxation, and to reimburse local taxing units for revenue lost due to that exemption.

COMMERCE AND LABOR:

- HB545** BENEFIT CORPORATION (Rep. Denise Driehaus, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To allow a corporation to become a benefit corporation.
- HB568** EMPLOYEE DEFINITION-LABOR LAWS (Rep. Debbie Phillips, Rep. John Rogers) To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws, to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer, and to regulate the payment of wages via payroll card.
- HB574** USED TIRE INSTALLATION (Rep. Robert Sprague, Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles.
- HB601** DEFINITION-MICROBUSINESS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness."

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ADVANCEMENT:

- SB308** CHILD SUPPORT (Sen. William Coley) To amend the child support laws.

EDUCATION:

- HB544** HIGH SCHOOL CIVICS ASSESSMENT (Rep. Kyle Koehler, Rep. Al Landis) To permit high school students to take a civics assessment instead of the American government end of-course examination.
- HB550** SCHOOL FACILITIES-TECHNOLOGY PURCHASING (Rep. Steve Arndt) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.
- HB560** COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments.
- HB570** INTERDISTRICT-OPEN ENROLLMENT (Rep. Brian Hill) Regarding funding for students enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, and other districts through interdistrict open enrollment.
- HB571** CAREER INFORMATION-STUDENTS (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Kristin Boggs) Regarding the presentation of career information to students.
- SB247** SCHOOL DISTRICT-SUMMER MEALS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

- HB582** IDLE WELLS-INSPECTION (Rep. Andrew Thompson, Rep. Sean O'Brien) To allow a landowner to report an idle and orphaned well or abandoned well, to require the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management to inspect and classify such a well, and to require the Chief to begin plugging a well classified as distressed-high priority within a specified time period.

FINANCE:

- HB549** STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT (Rep. John Patterson) To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation.

- HB563** INCOME TAX-LAYOFFS (Rep. Dan Ramos) To provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction.
- HB579** ODOT APPROPRIATIONS (Rep. Michael Ashford, Rep. Martin Sweeney) To make supplemental appropriations to the Department of Transportation in order to provide political subdivisions with funding for critical road maintenance repairs.
- HB583** PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-REQUIRED DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.
- HB587** DASHBOARD-BODY CAMERA-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (Rep. Kevin Boyce) To require law enforcement officers to use dashboard cameras and body cameras during any time that they are interacting with any member of the public while in the performance of their duties, to provide for state financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies for the purchase of such cameras and related equipment, and to make an appropriation.
- SB235** INCREASED VALUE-PROPERTY TAX (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. William Coley) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until construction of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property commences.
- SB319** OPIATE MBR (Sen. John Eklund) To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services.
- SB331** DOG SALE-PET RETAILER (Sen. Bob Peterson) To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores.
- SB332** COMMISSION ON INFANT MORTALITY-RECOMMENDATIONS (Sen. Shannon Jones, Sen. Charleta Tavares) To provide for the implementation of recommendations, other than those pertaining to tobacco taxes and the minimum purchase age for tobacco products, made by the Commission on Infant Mortality, and to make an appropriation.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

- HB593** INTRASTATE EQUITY CROWDFUNDING (Rep. Steve Arndt) To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances.
- HB598** CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LOAN (Rep. Louis Terhar) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT:

- HB542** POLLING PLACE-EXTENDED HOURS (Rep. Robert McColley) To specify the conditions under which a court may order that a polling place be kept open for extended hours on the day of an election and to require a person who votes pursuant to such an order to cast a provisional ballot.
- HB543** IN-PERSON ABSENT VOTING (Rep. Dan Ramos) To specify the conditions under which a board of county commissioners may establish

- one or more branch offices of the board of elections for in-person absent voting.
- HB555** LIQUOR PERMIT-ICE CREAM (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Kristin Boggs) To allow A-4 liquor permit holders to manufacture and sell ice cream containing between one-half of one per cent and six per cent of alcohol by volume.
- HB567** JOBSOHIO-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (Rep. Denise Driehaus) To require that, if JobsOhio provides financial assistance for the cleanup and remediation of brownfields, at least 85% of the assistance must be in the form of grants.
- HB591** SPECIAL ELECTION-CONGRESS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances.
- HB594** COMMUNITY SCHOOL AUDIT-PUBLIC MONEY (Rep. Kristina Roegner) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding of recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school.
- HB597** MEDICAL MARIJUANA-CONTROL PROGRAM (Rep. Kyle Koehler) Regarding the Medical Marijuana Control Program and reciprocity agreements.
- HB609** PHOTOGRAPH-BALLOT (Rep. Niraj Antani, Rep. Mike Duffey) To allow electors to photograph and make public the elector's own marked ballot.
- HJR8** SLAVERY-OHIO CONSTITUTION (Rep. Alicia Reece, Rep. Emilia Sykes) Proposing to amend Section 6 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude in Ohio for the punishment of crime.
- SB206** CAMPAIGN FINANCE-ELECTRONIC FILING (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically.
- SB273** CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ANNUAL DISCLOSURE ACT (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act.
- SB329** SUNSET REVIEW COMMITTEE-ABOLISH (Sen. Kris Jordan, Sen. Keith Faber) To abolish the Sunset Review Committee and to revise Sunset Review Law to require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to permit the review of other state departments and boards.

HEALTH AND AGING:

- HB564** STUDENT IMMUNIZATION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To make changes to the law governing immunizations for pupils.
- HB580** MONTH DESIGNATION (Rep. Terry Johnson, Rep. Stephen Huffman) To designate the month of November as "One Health Awareness Month."
- HB603** PALLIATIVE CARE COUNCIL-PROGRAM (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care.

- HB611** PATIENT AFTER-CARE-DISCHARGE (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning.
- HR510** OPIOID ABUSE-PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY (Rep. Greta Johnson, Rep. Denise Driehaus) To urge the Governor to declare that the increasing prevalence of opioid abuse is a public health emergency and to direct available state resources to support prevention and treatment efforts.
- SB165** LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT-DNR ORDERS (Sen. Peggy Lehner) To establish procedures for the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment and to make changes to the laws governing DNR identification and orders.
- SB245** MALNUTRITION PREVENTION COMMISSION (Sen. Gayle Manning) To create the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults.
- SB254** FETAL REMAINS (Sen. Joe Uecker) Regarding final disposition of fetal remains from abortions.
- SB287** DIABETES PREVENTION (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require state agencies to assess the incidence of diabetes in Ohio, to establish goals and plans to reduce that incidence, and to submit biennial reports with findings and recommendations for fiscal and legislative policies on diabetes prevention, treatment, and management.
- SB291** MONTH NAME DESIGNATION (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To designate September as "Pain Awareness Month."
- SB311** INFLUENZA VACCINE INFORMATION (Sen. Tom Patton) To require the Ohio Department of Health to prepare an influenza vaccine information sheet pertaining to older adults.
- SB312** DAY DESIGNATION (Sen. Shannon Jones) To designate May 1 as "Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day."

JUDICIARY:

- HB559** MEDICAL CLAIMS (Rep. Bob Cupp) To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster or mass hazard; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim.
- HB569** BIAS-MOTIVATED CRIME (Rep. Nickie Antonio) To rename the offense of ethnic intimidation to bias-motivated crime; to expand the scope of the offense to include specified crimes committed based on a person's actual or perceived ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; to require peace officer training on bias-motivated crime, and to require law enforcement agencies to submit data on bias-motivated crime to the Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- HB581** LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. William Reineke) To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies.

- HB585** PUBLIC RECORD-BODY CAMERA (Rep. Niraj Antani) To provide that a record created by a body camera that is worn or carried by a law enforcement officer who is engaged in the performance of the officer's official duties generally is a public record.
- HB602** FIDUCIARY ACCESS-DIGITAL ASSETS (Rep. Bob Cupp, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.
- SB257** RECORDED REAL PROPERTY INSTRUMENTS (Sen. Bill Seitz, Sen. Michael Skindell) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments.
- SB284** RECORD EXPUNGEMENT-HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM (Sen. Larry Obhof) To provide that a person who is found not guilty of an offense by a jury or a court may apply to the court for an order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or information was the result of the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking.
- SB299** PERRY COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

- HB561** PARK BOARD COMMISSIONERS (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require boards of county commissioners to appoint additional park board commissioners and allow for public comment during appointment process.
- HB562** NOTICES BY MAIL (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Scott Ryan) To authorize local governments and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail.
- HB576** PUBLIC RECORD-FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS (Rep. Scott Ryan) To exempt from the Public Records Act financial account numbers and identifying information in public records and to provide that taxpayer electronic mail address lists used by county treasurers to deliver tax bills are not public records.

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

- HB589** SUB-METERING RULES (Rep. Mike Duffey) To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling.

STATE GOVERNMENT:

- HB147** CONCEALED CARRY (Rep. Ron Hood) To allow a person who has a concealed handgun license to carry concealed all firearms other than dangerous ordnance or firearms that state or federal law prohibits the person from possessing and to provide that a person 21 years of age or older and not legally prohibited from possessing or receiving a firearm by federal law does not need a concealed handgun license in order to carry or have concealed on the person's person or ready at hand a firearm and is subject to the same laws regarding carrying a concealed firearm as a person who has a concealed handgun license.

HCR37	CONGRESS-REGULATION FREEDOM AMENDMENT (Rep. Margaret Condit, Rep. Bill Patmon) To urge Congress to propose the Regulation of Commerce Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
HCR36	COMMODORE PERRY-MISSILE DESTROYER (Rep. Michael Sheehy, Rep. Bob Cupp) To urge the Secretary of the Navy to name a guided missile destroyer vessel the O.H. Perry, in honor of Commodore Perry who fought in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812.
HB604	MONTH DESIGNATION (Rep. Bill Patmon) To designate November as "Dick Goddard Month."
HB596	FOREIGN DEBT-CAP INCREASE (Rep. Robert Sprague, Rep. Stephen Slesnick) To raise the foreign debt cap from one percent to two percent regarding state interim funds and county inactive and public library fund investments.
HB595	DAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Bill Patmon) To designate June 1, 2017, as Day Designation unless the licensee fails to leave the premises upon request. Prohibition unless the licensee fails to remove but is not guilty of a violation of the concealed on or in property on which carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited is subject to removal but is not guilty of a violation of the "Superman Day."
HB590	CONCEALED CARRY-PROPERTY PROHIBITION (Rep. John Becker) To provide that a concealed handgun licensee who carries a handgun is employees on that list from state grants, loans, and other benefits.
HB588	CONSUMER PROTECTION CALL CENTER (Rep. Nickie Antonio, Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the Consumer Protection Call Center Act of 2016 to require the Department of Job and Family Services to compile a list of all employees that relocate a call center to a foreign country and to disqualify individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employees for discrimination in the payment of wages.
HB586	WAGE DISCRIMINATION-COMPONENTS (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Janine Boyd) To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system prohibiting the General Assembly from holding sessions after the general election in an even-numbered year.
HB577	GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS-ELECTION (Rep. Terry Boose) To prohibit the use of domestic steel in construction, repair, or improvement projects involving certain buildings used by public schools, state institutions of higher education, and specialized private colleges.
HB575	ELIGIBILITY-MEDICAL-SNAP (Rep. Kevin Bogue) Regarding qualified Nutrition Assistance Program during their first five years in the United States.
HB558	DOMESTIC STEEL USE (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Dan Ramos) To require the use of domestic steel in construction, repair, or improvement projects involving certain buildings used by public schools, state institutions of higher education, and specialized private colleges.
HB465	PEACE OFFICER-BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY (Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhil, Rep. Ryan Smith) To retroactively extend eligibility for benefits from the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund to situations in which, on or after January 1, 2016, a volunteer peace officer is totally and permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty.
HB280	BALANCED BUDGET COMPACT (Rep. Steven Kraus, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To adopt the Compact for a Balanced Budget and to declare an emergency.

- HR503** CONGRESS-CORPORATE PERSONHOOD (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Nickie Antonio) To call on legislators at the state and federal level and other communities and jurisdictions to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would abolish corporate personhood and the doctrine of money as speech.
- SB169** VOTER REGISTRATION AWARENESS DAY (Sen. Frank LaRose) To designate the fourth Tuesday in September as "Voter Registration Awareness Day."
- SB227** ATTORNEY GENERAL-FUNCTIONS (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General.
- SCR15** U.S. CONSTITUTION TENTH AMENDMENT-REPEAL (Sen. Larry Obhof, Sen. Keith Faber) To reassert the principles of federalism found throughout the Constitution of the United States of America and embodied in the Tenth Amendment, to notify Congress to limit and end certain mandates, and to insist that federal legislation contravening the Tenth Amendment be prohibited or repealed.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

- HB552** LICENSE PLATE DESIGNATION (Rep. Tony Burkley) To establish the Monarch Butterfly license plate.
- HB553** LICENSE PLATE DESIGNATION (Rep. John Boccieri) To create the "Ohio Pupil Transportation...Safety First!!!" license plate.
- HB584** HIGHWAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Jack Cera) To designate portions of Interstate Route 70 in Belmont County as the "Sergeant Sylvester Antolak Medal of Honor Recipient Memorial Highway" and the "Sergeant Emile DeLeau, Jr. Medal of Honor Recipient Memorial Highway."
- HB605** HIGHWAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To designate a portion of Interstate Route 90 in Cuyahoga County as the "Patrol Officer Kenny Velez Memorial Highway."
- HB606** HIGHWAY DESIGNATION (Rep. John Patterson) To designate a portion of State Route 534 in Ashtabula County as the "Sgt. William 'Bill' Endress and Geneva Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Highway."
- HB608** AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. William Reineke) To authorize a manufacturer of autonomous vehicles or autonomous technology to operate autonomous vehicles on public roads and highways in accordance with specified requirements, and to require the Director of Transportation to produce a report discussing whether additional legislative or regulatory actions are necessary for purposes of ensuring the safe testing of autonomous vehicles.
- HB610** BRIDGE DESIGNATION (Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl) To designate the bridge spanning Schenck Creek on State Route 36 in Knox County as the "Corporal Nathan R. Anderson Memorial Bridge."
- SB231** LICENSE PLATE DESIGNATION (Sen. Peggy Lehner) To create the "Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies" license plate.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- HB546** CIVIL LIABILITY-VOLUNTEER LAW ENFORCEMENT (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To authorize a board of education or governing authority of a

school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer who is a current or retired law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to prevent or respond to a mass casualty event, to generally provide to a board of education or governing authority of a school and to such a volunteer immunity from civil liability for injury, death, or loss arising from the volunteer's services, and to provide a tax credit for volunteer service.

- HB565** TAX CREDIT-STUDENT LOANS (Rep. Dan Ramos) To allow a credit against the income tax or commercial activity tax for graduates or employers who make payments on student loans obtained by the graduate to earn a degree from an Ohio college or university.
- HB572** TAX REFUND-CANCER REPORTING (Rep. David Leland, Rep. Robert Sprague) To allow taxpayers to contribute all or a portion of their income tax refunds to support improved cancer reporting through the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System Fund.
- HB592** TAX-INVESTMENT COMPANIES (Rep. Derek Merrin) To subject small business investment companies to the commercial activity tax rather than the financial institutions tax.
- HB599** FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS-TAX RATE (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To repeal the financial institutions tax rate adjustment mechanism scheduled for tax year 2017 and to declare an emergency.
- HB600** FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS-ADJUSTMENT (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To make a technical correction to the financial institutions tax rate adjustment mechanism for tax year 2017 and to declare an emergency.

RE-REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

FINANCE:

- HB261** STATE TRAUMA BOARD (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Stephen Huffman) To establish the State Trauma Board in the Ohio Department of Health, to require that facilities that provide trauma care be designated by the Board as level I, II, or III trauma centers, and to provide that the amendment by this act to section 101.82 of the Revised Code terminates on December 31, 2016.

RULES AND REFERENCE:

- HB343** EMPLOYMENT SERVICES-TAX EXEMPT (Rep. Ron Young, Rep. Mark Romanchuk) To exempt employment services and employment placement services from sales and use tax.

The House adjourned until Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016 at 9 a.m. (Nonvoting Session)

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Journal Summaries and Session Agendas

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From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 12:14 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: House Journal Summary - Nov. 16, 2016

House Journal Summary
TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH DAY
(Regular Session)
November 16, 2016

INTRODUCED

- HCR38** CANCER CENTER RECOGNITION (Rep. Margaret Conditt, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To express support for the Proton Therapy Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and to urge that it be recognized by the National Cancer Institute as a Designated Cancer Center.
- HR537** ELECTION OF REP. WESLEY GOODMAN (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger) Relative to the election of Wesley A. Goodman to fill the vacancy in the membership of the House of Representatives created by the resignation of Jeffrey A. McClain of the 87th House District.
- HR538** ELECTION OF REP. CANDICE KELLER (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger) Relative to the election of Candice R. Keller to fill the vacancy in the membership of the House of Representatives created by the resignation of Timothy Derickson of the 53rd House District.
- HR543** HONORING ORANGE TOWNSHIP (Rep. Andrew Brenner) Honoring Orange Township on its Two Hundredth Anniversary.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

ARMED SERVICES, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SAFETY:

- HB615** MILITARY LICENSE PLATE (Rep. Greta Johnson) To allow a military veteran license plate to include the names of multiple military operations on one license plate.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ADVANCEMENT:

- HB618** RECORDS-MISTAKEN IDENTITY (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Alicia Reece) To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

- HB616** BANKING-STATE OF OHIO (Rep. Ron Amstutz) For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT:

- HB613** SUNSET REVIEW COMMITTEE (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be

convened to function during each odd-numbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency.

- HB617** STATE BOARDS-REVIEW (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To require the Director of Administrative Services to review referred agency actions and determine whether they are consistent with state and federal antitrust law.
- HJR9** OCMC RECOMMENDATION-BONDS (Rep. Ron Amstutz, Rep. Mike Curtin) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission relative to the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay the costs of facilities for mental health and developmental disabilities, parks and recreation, and housing of agencies of state government.
- HJR10** OCMC RECOMMENDATION-OBSOLETE BONDS (Rep. Ron Amstutz, Rep. Mike Curtin) Proposing to enact Section 18 of Article VIII and to repeal Sections 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 2j, and 2k of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that obsolete bond-authorizing provisions be eliminated.
- HJR11** OCMC RECOMMENDATION-SINKING FUND (Rep. Ron Amstutz, Rep. Mike Curtin) Proposing to amend Section 2 and to repeal Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that certain provisions concerning the sinking fund and the Sinking Fund Commission be eliminated.
- HJR12** OCMC RECOMMENDATION-COURTS (Rep. Ron Amstutz, Rep. Mike Curtin) Proposing to repeal Sections 19 and 22 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of conciliation and to eliminate the authority of the Governor to appoint a supreme court commission.

HEALTH AND AGING:

- HCR38** CANCER CENTER RECOGNITION (Rep. Margaret Conditt, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To express support for the Proton Therapy Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and to urge that it be recognized by the National Cancer Institute as a Designated Cancer Center.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

- HB614** PORT AUTHORITY-VIDEO CONFERENCE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Rick Perales) To allow airport and port authorities to conduct meetings by video conference and teleconference.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- HB612** DISASTER WORK-TAX EXEMPT (Rep. Scott Ryan) To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster.

PASSED BY HOUSE

- HB533** DAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Robert Sprague) To designate the month of May as "Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month."
Vote 91-0
- HB535** EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION-NATIONAL GUARD (Rep. Rick Perales) To extend employment and reemployment protection to a person who is a member of another state's national guard or organized militia and who is employed in Ohio.
Vote 93-0
- SB252** CARDIAC ARREST-YOUTH ACTIVITY (Sen. Cliff Hite, Sen. Tom Patton) With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities.
Vote 86-4

RE-REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

COMMERCE AND LABOR:

- HB583** PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-REQUIRED DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

- HB300** DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION (Rep. Nan Baker) To modify the law governing the termination or modification of a lifetime driver's license suspension or a class two suspension that exceeds fifteen years and to specify that a class one driver's license suspension for a specified aggravated vehicular homicide offense begins upon the offender's release from prison.

House Does Concur, Vote 89-0

ADOPTED BY HOUSE

- HR479** CONDOLENCE-WILLIAM HARTNETT (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger, Rep. Fred Strahorn) In memory of William J. Hartnett.
- HR537** ELECTION OF REP. WESLEY GOODMAN (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger) Relative to the election of Wesley A. Goodman to fill the vacancy in the membership of the House of Representatives created by the resignation of Jeffrey A. McClain of the 87th House District.
- HR538** ELECTION OF REP. CANDICE KELLER (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger) Relative to the election of Candice R. Keller to fill the vacancy in the membership of the House of Representatives created by the resignation of Timothy Derickson of the 53rd House District.

The House adjourned until Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016 at 1 p.m. (Voting Session)

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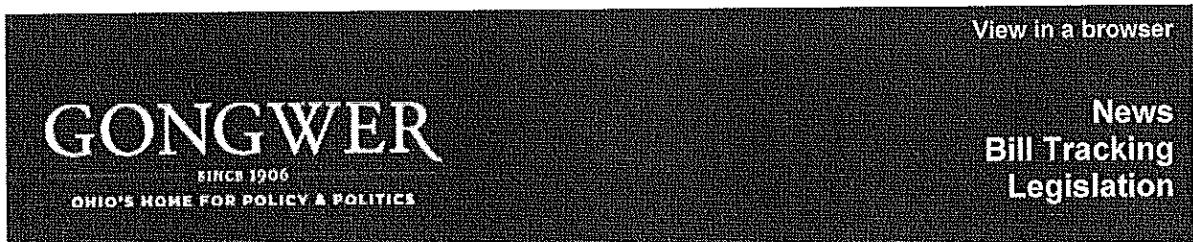
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[gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 12:23 PM
To: Standard_Subscriber_misc_html@gongwer-oh.com
Subject: House Floor Report



HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

|||||

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

HCR 38

CANCER CENTER (Conditt, M., Dever, J.)
To express support for the Proton Therapy Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and to urge that it be recognized by the National Cancer Institute as a Designated Cancer Center.

PASSED

SB 252

CARDIAC ARREST (Hite, C., Patton, T.)
With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities.
86-4 (Brinkman, Dean, Hood & Vitale)

HB 533

AWARENESS MONTH (Sprague, R.)
To designate the month of May as

"Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month."

91-0

HB 535

MILITARY BENEFITS (Perales, R.)

To extend employment and reemployment protection to a person who is a member of another state's national guard or organized militia and who is employed in Ohio.

93-0

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 225

AWARENESS DAY (Bacon, K.)

To designate the first day of June as "Hypoparathyroidism Awareness Day."

Thursday, Nov. 17

HB 270

OVERDOSE DEATHS (Dever, J., Pelanda, D.)

To provide that causing the death of another person by an overdose that results from the offender's sale, distribution, dispensation, or administration of a controlled substance or controlled substance analog is a violation of the offense of involuntary manslaughter and to makes this provision a strict liability offense.

Thursday, Nov. 17

HB 520

RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Schuring, K., Ramos, D.)

To revise the law governing the state's public retirement systems.

Thursday, Nov. 17

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 300

**LICENSE SUSPENSIONS (Baker, N., Manning,
N.)**

To modify the law governing the termination or modification of a lifetime driver's license suspension or a class two suspension that exceeds fifteen years, to specify that a class one driver's license suspension for a specified aggravated vehicular homicide offense begins upon the offender's release from prison, and to expand the purposes for which limited driving privileges may be granted during a driver's license suspension.

89-0

HOUSE ELECTS MEMBER

WES GOODMAN, REPUBLICAN, 87TH DISTRICT

CANDICE KELLER, REPUBLICAN, 53RD DISTRICT

REFERRED

Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety

HB 615

MILITARY LICENSE PLATES (Johnson, G.)

To allow a military veteran license plate to include the names of multiple military operations on one license plate.

Community & Family Advancement

HB 618

RECORD EXPUNGEMENT (Schuring, K., Reece, A.)

To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity.

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

HB 616

BANKING LAW (Amstutz, R.)

For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio.

Government Accountability & Oversight

HJR 9

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)

Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission relative to the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay the costs of facilities for mental health and developmental disabilities, parks and recreation, and housing of agencies of state government.

HJR 10

OBSOLETE BOND PROVISIONS (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)

Proposing to enact Section 18 of Article VIII and to repeal Sections 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 2j, and 2k of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that obsolete bond-authorizing provisions be eliminated.

HJR 11**SINKING FUND (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)**

Proposing to amend Section 2 and to repeal Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that certain provisions concerning the sinking fund and the Sinking Fund Commission be eliminated.

HJR 12**COURTS OF CONCILIATION (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)**

Proposing to repeal Sections 19 and 22 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of conciliation and to eliminate the authority of the Governor to appoint a supreme court commission.

HB 613**SUNSET REVIEW LAW (Amstutz, R.)**

To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each oddnumbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency.

HB 617**BOARD CONSOLIDATIONS (LaTourette, S.)**

To require the Director of Administrative Services to review referred agency actions and determine whether they are consistent with state and federal antitrust law; to create the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board, the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board, and the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the State Board of Optometry, the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board, the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board, and the Board of Speech Language Pathology and

Audiology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board; to abolish the Chemical Dependency Professionals Board, the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, and the State Board of Psychology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board; to abolish the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board and the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics and transfer those boards' duties to the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the Ohio Board of Dietetics and transfer its duties to the State Medical Board; to abolish the Ohio Respiratory Care Board and transfer its duties to the State Board of Pharmacy and the State Medical Board; to make other changes regarding licensing and regulating certain health professionals; and to make an appropriation.

Transportation & Infrastructure

HB 614

PORT AUTHORITY MEETINGS (Patterson, J., Perales, R.)

To allow airport and port authorities to conduct meetings by video conference and teleconference.

Ways & Means

HB 612

DISASTER BUSINESS EXEMPTION (Ryan, S.)

To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Finance

HJR 5

WATER SEWER BONDS (Lepore-Hagan, M., Smith, K.)

Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer and water capital improvements.

CONTINUED

SB 235

PROPERTY TAXES (Beagle, B., Coley, B.)

To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property.

CONTINUED (See separate story)

HB 67

MEDICAL GRANTS (Ramos, D.)

To create the Frances Lewandowski Memorial Medical Research Fund and the Medical University Research Reserve Fund to provide grants to public medical schools for research on terminal, chronic or currently incurable diseases, to require the General Assembly annually to appropriate for those grants an amount equal to not less than one-tenth of one percent of total prior year General Revenue Fund appropriations, and to make an appropriation.

CONTINUED

HB 492

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Rogers, J., Driehaus, D.)

To create the Supplemental State Capital Improvements Pilot Program funded by a temporary

transfer from the Budget Stabilization Fund and to make an appropriation.

CONTINUED

HB 583

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J.)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

RE-REFERRED (To Commerce & Labor)

HR 282

HIGHER EDUCATION (Howse, S., Ramos, D.)

To support efforts to ensure that students from Ohio have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities.

CONTINUED

Insurance

SB 27

FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.)

To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter.

CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE

HB 275

VISION CARE (Schuring, K.)

Regarding limitations imposed by health insurers on

vision care services.
CONTINUED

HB 416

SELF INSURANCE (Schuring, K.)
To enable state colleges and universities to establish joint self-insurance pools.
CONTINUED

Finance: Health & Human Services Sub.

SB 319

DRUG REGULATIONS (Eklund, J.)
To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services.

SB 332

INFANT MORTALITY (Jones, S., Tavares, C.)
To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

State Government

SB 199

MILITARY FIREARMS (Uecker, J., Gardner, R.)
To specify that an active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces: (1) does not need a concealed handgun license to carry a handgun concealed if the member is carrying valid military identification and a certificate indicating successful small arms qualification; and (2) may be sold or furnished a handgun if the member has received military or equivalent small arms training.

SB 220

DEFERRED COMPENSATION (Hottinger, J.)
To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred

Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or nontax-deferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans.

HB 529

FIREARMS (Rutherford, W., Hagan, C.)

To provide for firearms training for tactical medical professionals; to permit such a professional who has received that training or comparable training and who is authorized to carry firearms by the law enforcement agency the professional is serving to carry firearms while on duty in the same manner, to the same extent, in the same areas, and subject to the same potential for civil and criminal liability as a law enforcement officer of the agency; and to grant such a professional, while on duty in that capacity, the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license.

HB 551

FOOD INSPECTIONS (Hill, B.)

To require the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Health to adopt rules governing reviews of registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training who conduct inspections of retail food establishments and food service operations.

Public Utilities

HB 554

RENEWABLE ENERGY (Amstutz, R.)

To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction and to revise provisions governing which customers can opt out of related programs.

SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD (See separate story)

Health & Aging

SB 165

LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT (Lehner, P.)

To establish procedures for the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment and to make changes to the laws governing DNR identification and orders.

CONTINUED

SB 245

MALNUTRITION (Manning, G.)

To create the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults.

CONTINUED

SB 291

AWARENESS MONTH (Yuko, K.)

To designate September as "Pain Awareness Month."

REPORTED

HB 580

MONTH DESIGNATION (Johnson, T., Huffman, S.)

To designate the month of November as "One Health Awareness Month."

REPORTED

HB 603

PALLIATIVE CARE (LaTourette, S.)

To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care.

CONTINUED

HB 611

HOSPITAL AFTER-CARE (LaTourette, S.)

To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning.

CONTINUED

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From: Columbus City Council
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 11:09 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Columbus Division of Police Deploy First Body Worn Cameras



Columbus Division of Police Deploy First Body Worn Cameras

[COLUMBUS, OH] - Mayor Andrew J. Ginther, Columbus City Council and the Columbus Division of Police announced the first body worn cameras were deployed last evening, Wednesday, December 28, on 12 traffic officers. This initial phase of deployment comes after a months-long development of policies and procedures, as well as the evaluation and selection of a vendor.

"Body worn cameras are an important tool to improve police-community relations, and I am confident that they will increase transparency and accountability for both the community and police. In fact, camera footage will not be limited solely to the courtroom but will also be largely available to the public through open records laws," said Columbus City Council President Zach Klein.

A body worn camera committee composed of members of the community, academia, the Fraternal Order of Police and support staff from the Department of Safety was formed in September 2015. They studied research, engaged in public meetings and took testimony from body worn camera experts.

The committee issued a report in June 2016 which provided recommendations for policies, procedures and necessary changes in state law to implement a body worn camera program in Columbus.

"Research shows body worn cameras are an important tool to enhance public safety and promote more positive interactions between the police and the community," said

Mayor Ginther. "I have said before that I wanted to do more than get it done; I wanted to get it right. I stand here confident we have accomplished that."

At the same time as the committee developed policies, the City's procurement experts led an intense vendor selection process. Six models from five different vendors were given to 30 officers for a test program beginning on August 30, 2016. Their input informed the city's decision to select a vendor and enter into a contract with WatchGuard, a leader in the manufacturer of law enforcement video systems.

The City also worked with the Fraternal Order of Police to plan for implementation and assure new policies did not conflict with the Collective Bargaining agreement.

"The Columbus Division of Police is committed to being a progressive, trustworthy, and community-minded organization," said Chief of Police Kim Jacobs. "Recording most of our daily interactions with community members is an excellent method to prove that commitment and to show the outstanding service and dedication of our law enforcement personnel."

Phase I of the implementation includes the remainder of the Traffic Unit which is expected to be outfitted by the end of January 2017. Phase II, which consists of the Bicycle Unit, will begin once the installation of fiber optic communication infrastructure is completed at police substations, expected to be complete by the end of May 2017.

"I am confident the technology and training we have provided our officers will help keep Columbus neighborhoods, and our officers, safe," said Public Safety Director Ned Pettus, Jr. "While minor glitches might be expected even after all of our planning, vetting and testing, we have a thoughtful and deliberate implementation plan that will allow the Division to effectively deploy body worn cameras, make adjustments and continuously improve training as we place additional cameras in service."

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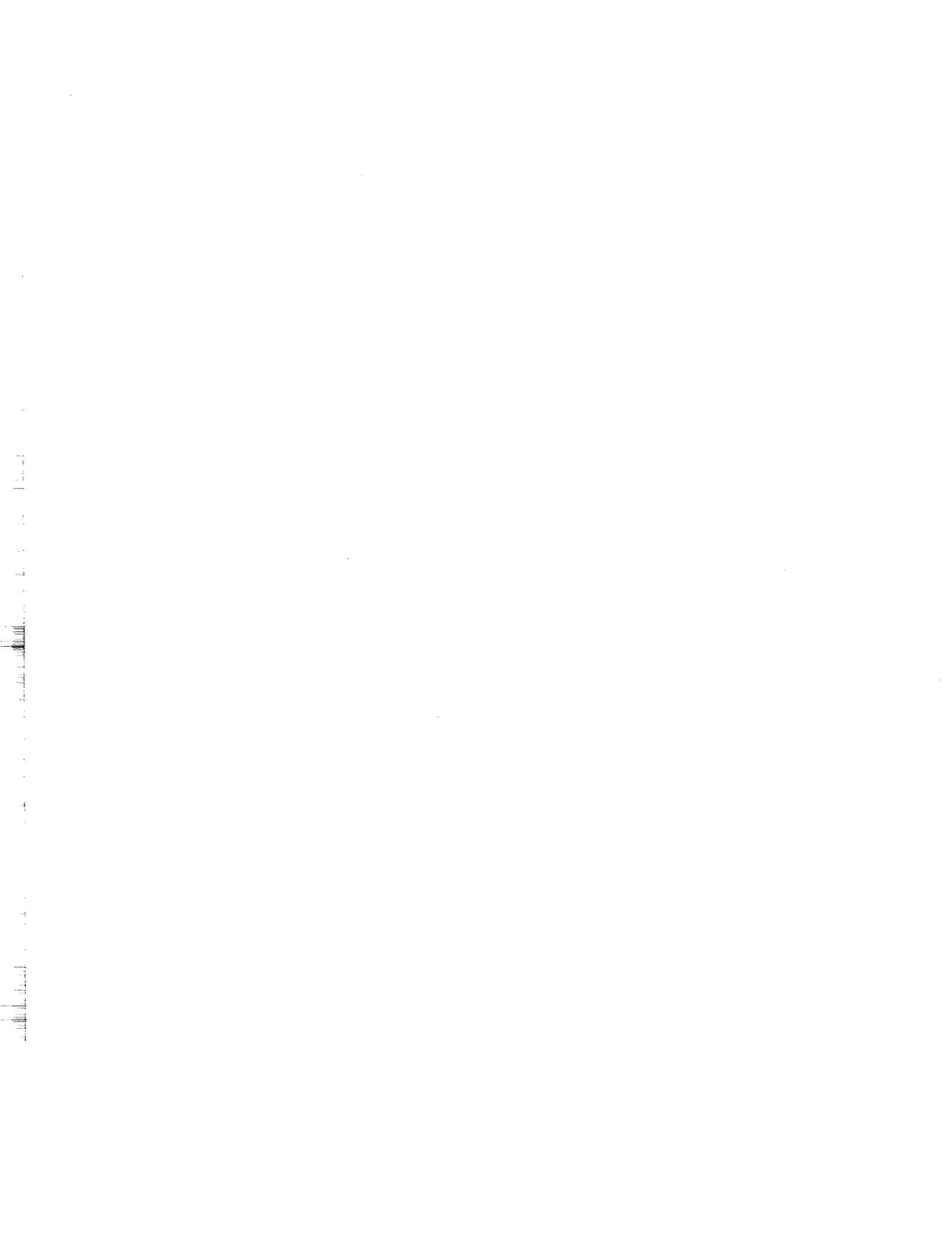
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From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2017 1:17 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

Importance: High



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd
DATE: January 9, 2017
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

I will soon reintroduce legislation to create the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Beginning in 2020, the program will provide 12 weeks of family and medical leave benefits, which will permit individuals to care for a family member, bond with a new child, or address their own serious health condition.

Out of 178 countries worldwide, the United States is one of three that does not provide paid leave to new mothers. Only two states, California and New Jersey, offer paid leave to men and women who provide care. The federal Family Medical Leave Act provides 12 weeks of leave for family and medical reasons. This time is unpaid and employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt, which eliminates a large segment of workers. Ohio should lead on the issue of paid leave to grow our economy and allow working people to put family first.

The program will be under the purview of the Department of Job and Family Services. An individual would receive leave insurance benefits for: a health condition which makes him/her unable to perform their job duties; caring for a new child during after birth, adoption, or foster care placement; caring for a child, parent, or spouse who has a serious health condition; or the individual is taking any other leave as authorized by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. In order to be eligible for program benefits, an individual must file a claim with ODJFS; must have worked at least 680 hours during the base period; premiums

have been withheld and remitted for at least one year; and the leave must be for the above-mentioned purposes.

Once established, program benefits will be paid by assessing premiums on employees. Employers will be required to deduct and withhold premiums from employee's wages. However, an employer may opt to pay the contributions on behalf of employees.

An employee who is covered by an employer policy or collective bargaining agreement that provides the employee with greater leave than that provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act may elect not to participate in the Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Director. An employee who elects to opt out of participating in the Program is not liable for any premium or contribution that would otherwise be due under the Program.

Working people in Ohio should not have to worry about losing their job or falling behind financially just to take care of a sick child or relative; address their own serious health condition; or care for and bond with their newborn child. Ohio cities like Dayton and Cincinnati are leading on leave. By allowing working people to put their family first, we can truly make Ohio a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this bill, please feel free to contact Dominic Paretti in my office at 4-5079 or Dominic.Paretti@OhioHouse.Gov by 3 pm Friday, January 27, 2017.

Dominic Paretti
Legislative Aide to Representative Boyd
Ohio House District 09
614-644-5079

From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 1:21 PM
To: House_All
Subject: RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

Representative Kristin Boggs has been added as a Joint Sponsor &

CO SPONSOR EXTENDED

Wednesday, February, 8 2017-2 pm

From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 4:17 PM
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave
Importance: High



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd
DATE: January 9, 2017
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

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Dominic Paretty
Legislative Aide to Representative Boyd
Ohio House District 09
614-644-5079

From: Rep30
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:15 AM
To: Rep47; Derksen, Nick
CC: Springhetti, Blake
Subject: FW: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back

FYI

From: Seitz, William [mailto:william.seitz@dinsmore.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 1:56 PM
To: Wolf, Jimmy <Jimmy.Wolf@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back

Print out and send to rep Merrin and Nick Dirksen

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Don Wedding <donwedding@toast.net>
Date: February 8, 2017 at 11:17:40 AM EST
To: "Seitz, William" <william.seitz@dinsmore.com>
Subject: Re: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back
Reply-To: <donwedding@toast.net>

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AAUP bargaining unit. Each Lecturer teaches about twice the number of courses taught by T/TT and is paid much less, about \$50K per year plus benefits. Many have to find a 2nd job.

The total 650 faculty salaries plus benefits are less than 15% of the total UT academic budget. This figure is about the same for other public universities in Ohio. Our former President Lloyd Jacobs used to tell the BOT that faculty are over 80% of the academic budget, but he was feeding them BS. My figures are based on the dues payments we receive from UT every two weeks. I also have sat on the UT Finance and Strategy committee for many years. By comparison the administrative salaries and benefits are 30% or more, over twice the faculty.

If tenure is to be abolished or fazed out, then there should also be a legislative prohibition against a public university giving an employment or consulting contract beyond a certain term. I favor a two year limit. Many high level administrators receive five year contracts with very high built in bonuses. Some administrators and well connected faculty retire and come back (double dipping) under three to five year contracts at higher pay. A five year limit could apply to a newly hired president, but any renewal would be limited to two years. All contracts and renewals would be limited to two years. Otherwise university administrators will give themselves high paid long term contracts to off set tenure loss. They will also give long term contracts to favored faculty to offset the loss of tenure. Athletics could be a special case and perhaps a five year contract would be ok for head coaches and the Athletic Director.

If the Ohio legislature wants to do something about the cost of higher education, it should consider limiting the ever increasing costs of more and more high paid administrators and their sweetheart contracts approved by politically appointed and clueless BOT. Also the Ohio legislature should consider merging some of the universities like UT/BGSU and Akron/Kent State. The Ohio higher Ed financial problems were not caused by faculty or tenure or unions. We have been led down this path by incompetent and over paid Liberal administrators. The Ohio legislature may get rid of tenure and unions, but please also do something about these university administrators and their special contracts.

don

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Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:38 AM
To: "donwedding@toast.net" <donwedding@toast.net>
Subject: Re: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back

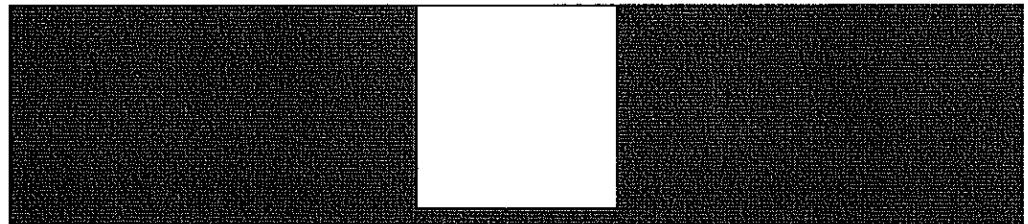
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BS from the National AAUP. They are hitting Trump almost every day. GOP faculty including me are pissed off at these nonsense emails. don

From: "Hans-Joerg Tiede, AAUP"
[<communications@aaup.org>](mailto:communications@aaup.org)
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:26 PM
To: donwedding@toast.net
Subject: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back



Dear don,

From efforts to eliminate tenure to the online intimidation of faculty, higher education is under attack across the country. The AAUP's work to confront these challenges and to strengthen the core values of higher education have never been more vital.

Tenure, which is integral to academic freedom, has been the most recent target of concerted, state-level attacks. In Iowa, a bill would eliminate tenure at public institutions, even for faculty who already have it. A Missouri bill would end tenure for all new hires by 2018. In North Dakota, the state university system is considering a significant reduction in the termination notice given to tenured faculty members.

Attempts to destroy tenure are just one part of widespread attacks on higher education. Professors are being targeted with online harassment through watchlists and other means. The

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Thank you,

Hans-Joerg Tiede
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Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance



Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](#). To update your email address or to stop receiving emails from American Association of University Professors, please [click here](#).

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From: Derksen, Nick
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Rep30
Subject: RE: Higher Education Under Attack: Resources to Fight Back

Thanks.

Nick
614-466-2361
Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov

From: Rep30
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 2:15 PM
To: Rep47 <Rep47@ohiohouse.gov>; Derksen, Nick <Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: Springhetti, Blake <Blake.Springhetti@ohiohouse.gov>
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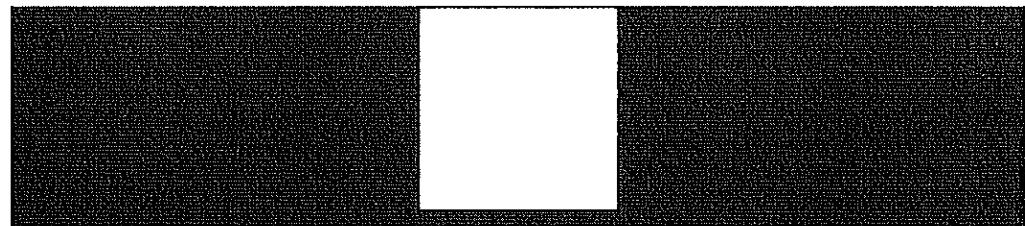
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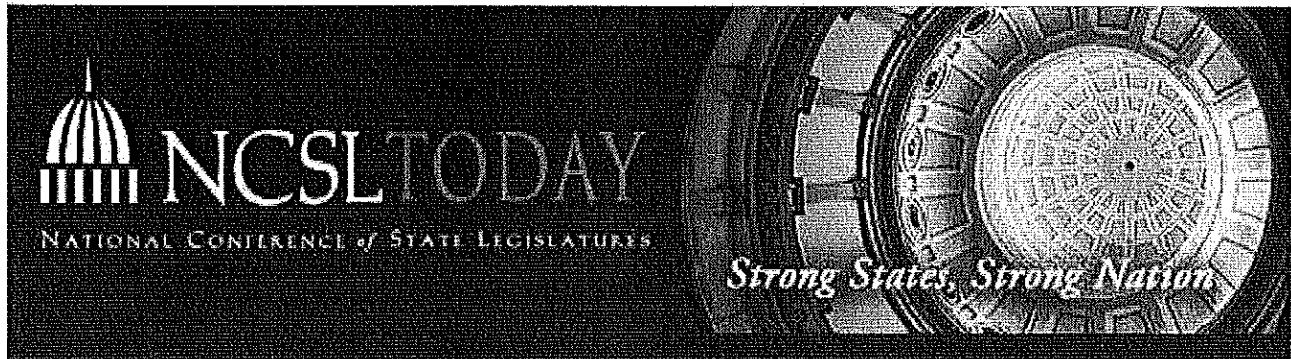


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From: NCSL TODAY
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 9:02 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: States see favorable conditions for gas tax hike

NCSL Today | Manage your subscription



TOP NEWS Feb. 9, 2017

States see favorable conditions for gas tax hike

Reuters

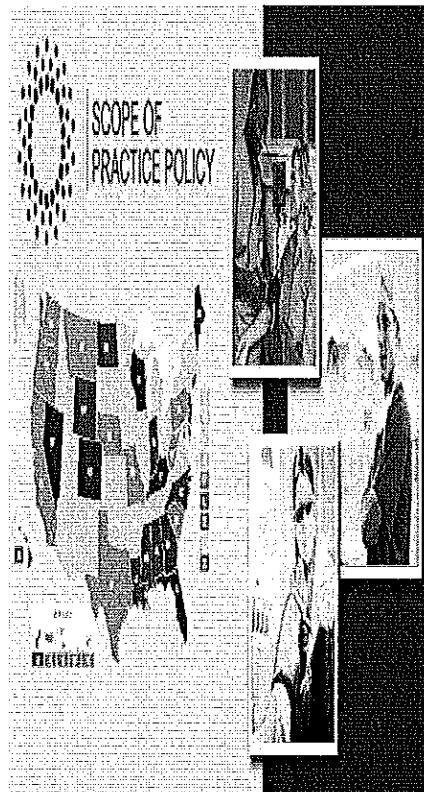
States where gasoline taxes have not risen in decades are now discussing an increase and conditions might be ripe for the proposed hikes to win approval in state legislatures, tax experts said this week. **NCSL's Kevin Pula quoted.**

North Carolina judges suspend limits on governor's power

The New York Times

A three-judge state court panel in North Carolina on Tuesday held up part of a new Republican-backed law that strips important power from the newly elected Democratic governor.

Legislators question Ohio governor's budget



The Columbus Dispatch

Gov. John Kasich's school-funding proposal, which cuts state aid to rural districts while providing more money for many suburban and urban schools, is getting a mixed reaction from legislators.

= A Iowa Republicans propose sweeping changes to collective bargaining

The Des Moines Register

Republican lawmakers on Tuesday proposed sweeping changes to Iowa's collective bargaining laws that govern the way 184,000 of the state's teachers, corrections officers and other public sector union workers negotiate for wages, health care and other employment benefits.

Congress takes aim at California law mandating retirement plans for low-income workers

The Los Angeles Times

An ambitious California law intended to help create retirement security for low-income workers is in the crosshairs of the Trump-era Congress, which is moving to block the state and others from launching programs to automatically enroll millions of people in IRA-type savings plans.

NCSL Foundation Partnership on Retirement Security.

Universal pre-K is hard to find and harder to fund

Governing

The states and cities expanding early education have

Visit NCSL's new website devoted to Scope of Practice Policy

The purpose of this website is to educate state policymakers about scope of practice issues related to nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dental hygienists and dental therapists.



Three state legislative officers to serve on FCC advisory board

Energy efficiency and renewables in lower-income homes

New edition of Capitol to Capitol newsletter



Tracking scope of practice around the nation

Different states have different laws regarding scope of practice for health care providers. States define local solutions to local issues surrounding scope of

wrestled with the question of what qualifies as "universal." NCSL research on school readiness and transitions.

practice policy. Tracking what's happening around the country is a challenge. This website provides policymakers with an easy reference source.



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Denver: 303-364-7700

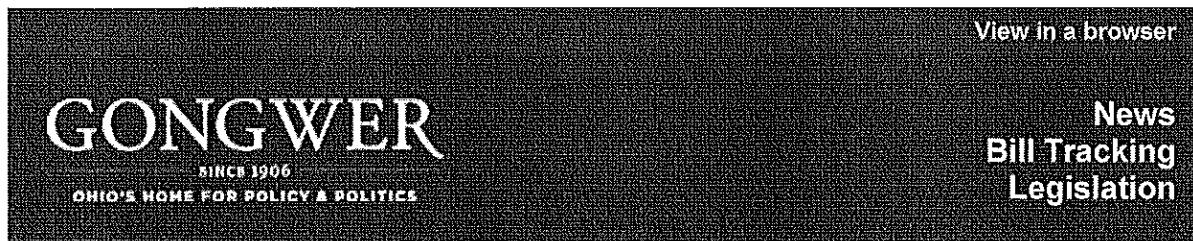
Washington: 202-624-5400

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= A

7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service
[gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 1:01 PM
To: Standard_Subscriber_misc_html@gongwer-oh.com
Subject: House Floor Report



HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

View in a browser | News | Bill Tracking | Legislation | Home | Log In | Sign Up | Help

INTRODUCED

HB 51

AGENCY REVIEWS (Faber, K.)

To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review.

HB 52

DEED SOLICITATION (Rezabek, J.)

To regulate the solicitation of certain deeds.

HB 53

UNION DUES (Becker, J.)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to

any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

HB 54

REVENUE OBLIGATIONS (Blessing, L., Gavarone, T.)

To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities.

HB 55

ROAD NAMING (Rogers, J.)

To designate a portion of State Route Two in Lake County as the "Lcpl Bret M. Poklar Memorial Highway."

HB 56

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Dever, J., Gavarone, T.)

To permit a person who is found not guilty or is the defendant in a dismissed case to apply for an expungement of the person's records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or finding of not guilty resulted from the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking, to permit a person convicted of certain prostitution-related offenses to apply for the expungement of any record of conviction of an offense, with certain exceptions, if the person's participation in the offense was a result of having been a victim of human trafficking, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution.

HB 57**DOMESTIC STEEL (Boccieri, J., Ramos, D.)**

To require the use of domestic steel in construction, repair, or improvement projects involving certain buildings used by public schools, state institutions of higher education, and specified private colleges.

HB 58**CURSIVE HANDWRITING (Brenner, A., Slaby, M.)**

To require instruction in cursive handwriting.

HB 59**DAY DESIGNATION (Leland, D., West, T.)**

To designate October 7 as "Moses Fleetwood Walker Day."

HB 60**DRIVER'S LICENSES (Hambley, S., Rogers, J.)**

To authorize the issuance of an enhanced driver's license, enhanced commercial driver's license, and enhanced identification card to facilitate land and sea border crossings between the United States and Canada and Mexico, pursuant to an agreement with the United States Department of Homeland Security.

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

**FEDERALISM AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS: REMOVE
REPRESENTATIVE DUFFEY; APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE GOODMAN.**

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE: APPOINT REPS.
STRAHORN, CELEBREZZE, AND ANTONIO.**

**OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION: SPEAKER
ROSENBERGER, REPRESENTATIVES SCHURING, PELANDA,
LATOURLETTE, AND PATTON.**

**OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION: REP.
HOLMES**

**STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SERVICES INTERNET PROTOCOL
NETWORK STEERING COMMITTEE: REP. CARFAGNA**

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

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From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: House Journal Summary - Feb. 13, 2017

House Journal Summary
TWELFTH DAY
(Nonvoting Session)
February 13, 2017

INTRODUCED

- HB51** DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE (Rep. Keith Faber) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review.
- HB52** DEED SOLICITATION REGULATION (Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To regulate the solicitation of certain deeds.
- HB53** PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.
- HB54** STATE REVENUE OBLIGATIONS (Rep. Louis Blessing III) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities.
- HB55** HIGHWAY DESIGNATION-BRET POKLAR (Rep. John Rogers) To designate a portion of State Route Two in Lake County as the "Lcpl Bret M. Poklar Memorial Highway."
- HB56** EXPUNGEMENT-HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To permit a person who is found not guilty or is the defendant in a dismissed case to apply for an expungement of the person's records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or finding of not guilty resulted from the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking, to permit a person convicted of certain prostitution-related offenses to apply for the expungement of any record of conviction of an offense, with certain exceptions, if the person's participation in the offense was a result of having been a victim of human trafficking, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution.

- HB57** DOMESTIC STEEL REQUIREMENTS (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Dan Ramos) To require the use of domestic steel in construction, repair, or improvement projects involving certain buildings used by public schools, state institutions of higher education, and specified private colleges.
- HB58** CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Marilyn Slaby) To require instruction in cursive handwriting.
- HB59** DAY DESIGNATION-MOSES WALKER (Rep. David Leland, Rep. Thomas West) To designate October 7 as "Moses Fleetwood Walker Day."
- HB60** DRIVER'S LICENSES-INTERNATIONAL (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. John Rogers) To authorize the issuance of an enhanced driver's license, enhanced commercial driver's license, and enhanced identification card to facilitate land and sea border crossings between the United States and Canada and Mexico, pursuant to an agreement with the United States Department of Homeland Security.

The House adjourned until Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017 at 9 a.m. (Nonvoting Session)

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Journal Summaries and Session Agendas

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From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: House Journal Summary - Feb. 14, 2017

House Journal Summary
THIRTEENTH DAY
(Nonvoting Session)
February 14, 2017

INTRODUCED

- HB61** TAX EXEMPTION-FEMININE PRODUCTS (Rep. Greta Johnson, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To exempt from sales tax the sale of tampons and other feminine hygiene products associated with menstruation.
- HB62** WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Michael Sheehy) To require the Director of Agriculture to adopt rules establishing the Ohio Water Quality Improvement Program, to exempt land enrolled in the Program from taxation, and to reimburse local taxing units for revenue lost due to that exemption.
- HB63** SENTENCING-DISFIGUREMENT SPECIFICATION (Rep. Jim Hughes) To require an additional prison term for felonious assault of 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20 years if the offender also is convicted of a specification that charges that the harm caused by the violation resulted in a permanent, serious disfigurement or substantial incapacity or that the offender used an accelerant in committing the violation and to name the act's provisions "Judy's Law."
- HR36** HONORING MISS OHIO DINALEIGH BAXTER (Rep. Terry Johnson) Honoring Dinaleigh Baxter as the 2017 Miss Ohio USA.
- HR37** D.J. DODD-UPMAC CHAMPION (Rep. Ron Hood) Honoring D.J. Dodd as a UPMAC National Champion.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

CIVIL JUSTICE:

- HB52** DEED SOLICITATION REGULATION (Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To regulate the solicitation of certain deeds.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ADVANCEMENT:

- HB50** SNAP REQUIREMENTS (Rep. Tim Schaffer) To establish requirements for electronic benefit transfer cards issued under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

- HB48** WAR RELIC PROTECTION (Rep. Tim Schaffer) To prohibit a war relic that is located on public property or on the property of a cemetery association

from being sold or otherwise disposed of, or destroyed, relocated, removed, altered, or otherwise disturbed, except under certain circumstances.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCE AND LABOR:

- HB42** VEHICLE TIRE SAFETY (Rep. Robert Sprague, Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles.

EDUCATION AND CAREER READINESS:

- HB47** STUDENTS IN MILITARY (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges.

FINANCE:

- HB49** OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget.

- HB53** PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

- HB46** GOVERNMENT FUNDS (Rep. Robert Sprague) To modify the qualifications regarding notes eligible for investment of county inactive moneys and money in the public library fund.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT:

- HB41** VOTING PROCESS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To modify the law concerning challenges to voter registrations, the appointment of observers, and the procedures for processing absent voter's ballots and for casting absent voter's ballots in person.

HEALTH:

- HB45** MONTH DESIGNATION-NEUROFIBROMATOSIS AWARENESS (Rep. Robert Sprague) To designate May as "Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month."

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

- HB39** SNOW REMOVAL (Rep. Steve Arndt, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To authorize certain townships to require the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks abutting property.

- HB40** GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Dave Greenspan) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.

- HB44** DAY DESIGNATION-FIRST RESPONDERS (Rep. Bill Patmon) To designate May 24 as First Responders' Appreciation Day.

- HB51** DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE (Rep. Keith Faber) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the

Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY:

- HB43** HIGHWAY DESIGNATION-BURT MILLER (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To designate the portion of State Route 93 in New Franklin as the "PFC Burt "Rusty" Miller Memorial Highway."

WAYS AND MEANS:

- SB22** INCORPORATING FEDERAL REVENUE CHANGES (Sen. Bob Peterson) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since February 14, 2016, into Ohio law.

The House adjourned until Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. (Voting Session)

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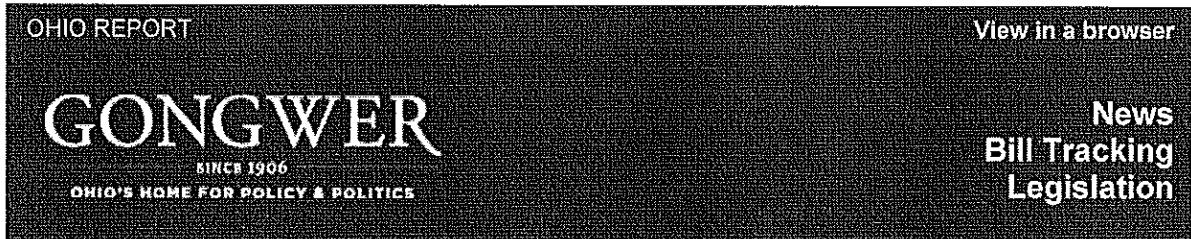
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Subject: Ohio Report, Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Attachments: Feb15House.htm; Feb15Senate.htm; Feb15.htm; 170215dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

House Passes Bills Dealing With Cocaine, Taxes, Gambling; Speaker Talks Collective Bargaining

Critics Take Aim At Several Portions Of Transportation Budget

Senate Committee Debates Bill On Poll Workers, Death Notifications By Election Boards

Dating Protection Order Bill Eyed For Quick Committee Approval

Opponents Of 'Pastor Protection Act' Warn Of LGBT Discrimination, But Speaker Expresses Support

Senate Resumes Debate Over Disposal Of Fetal Remains

Senate Advances Measure Creating Perry County Municipal Court

Bill To Start School After Labor Day Will Get Thorough Review, Lehner Says

Victim's Rights Group Announces Campaign Kickoff

Lawmaker: CAUV Formula A 'Major Butt-Kicker' For Farmers

Insurers, Regulators Eyeing DC For Health Policy Changes

Survey Shows Restaurant Owners Optimistic; Cedar Fair Has Record Fiscal Year; Diebold, DDR Report Financials

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Senate Committee Hearings

Ways & Means

Government Oversight & Reform

Education

House Committee Hearings

Transportation & Public Safety

Civil Justice

Finance

Insurance

Health

Finance: Agriculture, Development & Natural Resources Sub.

Community & Family Advancement

Finance: State Government & Agency Review Sub.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

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House Activity for Wednesday, February 15, 2017

INTRODUCED

HB 64 ■ **RECORD EXPUNGEMENT** (Schuring, K., Reece, A.) To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity. Am. 2953.51, 2953.52, 2953.53, 2953.54, 2953.55, and 2953.61.

HB 65 ■ **SANITARIAN REVIEWS** (Hill, B.) To require the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Health to adopt rules governing reviews of registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training who conduct inspections of retail food establishments and food service operations. En. 3717.042.

HB 66 ■ **TENURED FACULTY** (Young, R.) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester. Am. 3345.45 and to enact section 3345.451.

HB 67 ■ **JUDGMENT CONFESSIONS** (Young, R.) To prohibit a person from obtaining a confession of judgment from another person except in connection with the settlement of a dispute. Am. 1337.53, 2323.12, and 2323.13 and to repeal sections 1907.09 and 2323.14.

HB 68 ■ **VOYEURISM** (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a potential victim of voyeurism, to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance, and to prohibit an owner, operator, administrator, or employee of a care facility from creating, sharing, reproducing, or publishing any image of a care facility resident without a proper purpose and without prior written consent from the resident. Am. 2903.33, 2903.34, 2907.08, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, and 2929.13.

HB 69 ■ **TIF DISTRICTS** (Cupp, R.) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district. Am. 5709.40.

HB 70

FUEL TAX DISPLAYS (Merrin, D.) To enact the "Fuel Tax Transparency Act" requiring stickers to be placed on retail service station pumps displaying the rates of federal and state taxes applicable to gasoline and diesel fuel. En. 5735.50.

PASSED

HB 4

COCAINE OFFENSES (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To provide that in determining the amount of cocaine for trafficking and possession offenses, it also includes a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance containing cocaine, and to declare an emergency.

EMERGENCY: 95-1 (Brinkman); BILL: 97-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 11

TAX LAWS (Scherer, G.) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since February 14, 2016, into Ohio law.

97-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 32

CASINO EMPLOYEES (Seitz, B.) To specify that the criminal penalty related to casino operators and employees participating in casino gaming applies at their casino facility or an affiliated casino facility.

94-3 (Antani, Ginter, T. Johnson)

Gongwer Coverage

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Transportation & Public Safety

HB 16

ROAD NAMING (Cera, J.) To designate a portion of State Route 43 in Jefferson County as the "Army Corporal Carl H. Bernhart Memorial Highway." (REPORTED (No testimony); 2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 22

ROAD NAMING (Hambley, S.) To designate a portion of State Route 261 in Medina and Summit Counties as the "Sergeant James F. Allen III Memorial Highway." (REPORTED; 2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Asley Rae Yeager submitted written testimony in support. "The significance of having a memorial highway designated in his name would mean so much to me personally, his daughter Natalie, son Tristan, as well as friends, family, and military comrades," she wrote.

"It will also stand as a daily encouragement to continue his legacy through goodwill and advocacy."

HB 9 **TRAFFIC SIGNALS (Koehler, K.)** To specify that the alternative protocol for proceeding into an intersection with malfunctioning traffic lights due to a failure of a vehicle detector applies only to bicycles. (**REPORTED**; 2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Sgt. Nick Konves, of the Columbus Police Bicycle Coordination Unit, testified in support, saying he became aware of the bill that passed last session (HB154, 131st General Assembly) after seeing news reports and was concerned that any type of vehicle could treat red lights as stop signs in certain instances. He cited "blind intersections," differences between stop signs and traffic signals at intersections and the potential for crashes at the crossroads.

He said the prior legislation, which allows vehicles to proceed through malfunctioning traffic signals, allows for too much discretion. "This makes enforcement and prosecution very difficult and nearly impossible," he said. "I have testified many times in various court systems during my career and I foresee this causing a big problem for prosecution."

Responding to a question from Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon), the witness said that under the bill a bicycle could still proceed through an untriggered traffic signal after a "reasonable amount of time."

Patricia Kovacs, of the Ohio Bicycle Federation, said the bill passed last session should stand and allow for all motor vehicles to proceed through malfunctioning traffic signals. At minimum, motorcycles should also be included because they face the same issues as bicycles, she said.

"This law should really apply to any vehicle," she said.

Subscribers Note: Full testimony is available on the committee's website under Feb. 15. **Civil Justice**

HB 1 **DATING PROTECTION ORDERS (Sykes, E., Manning, N.)** To authorize the issuance of dating violence protection orders with respect to conduct directed at a petitioner alleging dating violence, to provide access to domestic violence shelters for victims of dating violence, and to require the Attorney General's victim's bill of rights pamphlet to include a notice that a petitioner alleging dating violence has the right to petition for a civil protection order. (**CONTINUED (See separate story)**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

HB 7 **MEDICAL PROVIDER IMMUNITY (Cupp, R.)** To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and an amount accepted as full payment for medical services is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the

manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim." (**CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor**)

Rep. Robert Cupp (R-Lima) described his bill as the product of months of talks with the Ohio State Medical Association and the Ohio Hospital Association. The Ohio Association for Justice, however, is "not on board" with all of the bill's provisions, he acknowledged. He said the bill would "fill in some of the gaps" in ten areas of existing medical malpractice tort law.

"An unfavorable medical liability climate can lead to expansive and expensive litigation, expensive and sometimes hard to obtain liability insurance, and a diminished supply of medical professionals to meet the needs of patients," he said. "Although the medical malpractice climate in Ohio has significantly improved in the past decade or so as a result of enactments by the General Assembly, there are several things which can further improve medical tort liability law and practice."

According to Rep. Cupp's overview, the bill would:

- Label communications from health care providers communicating error or fault to the list of inadmissible documentation.
- Reduce the need to sweep into the lawsuit unnecessary defendants.
- Permit a notice of intent to file a medical claim to be served by certified mail rather than in person.
- Abrogate the loss of chance theory of tort liability by restoring the "traditional concept of causation by abolishing the judicially-created loss of less than even chance of recovery theory of liability."
- Prevent insurance reimbursement policies from establishing a legal standard of care for medical tort liability.
- Correct existing language regarding nursing home plans of care by exempting hospitals and other providers from the language.
- Maintain the confidentiality of peer review records but clarify that they may be provided to regulators without losing confidential status.
- Prohibit the introduction of "phantom damages" into evidence.
- Provide limited immunity for certain healthcare providers or hospitals acting in good faith and in concert with professional standards when medically discharging a patient who has a mental health condition that may threaten the safety of the patient or others.
- Establish a different liability standard for medical care in the event of a widespread disaster event resulting in "widespread personal injury (or) loss of life that results from any natural or technological phenomenon or act of a human, or an epidemic."

Lawmakers raised several questions about the bill, including several focused on provisions labeling certain communications inadmissible and prohibiting the introduction of phantom damages into evidence.

Rep. Nicholas Celebreeze (D-Parma), for example, questioned whether it was within legislative purview to modify the rules of evidence. And Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) asked whether the phantom evidence provision might deter patients from seeking health insurance. Rep. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus) asked who or what would determine whether a disaster qualifies under the bill. Rep. Cupp said that area of the bill could use some extra defining, although his inclination is to allow the jury to decide.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony, see the [committee's website](#) under Feb. 15. **Finance**

HB 26 **TRANSPORTATION BUDGET (McColley, R.)** To make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs.
(CONTINUED (See separate story); 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Subscribers Note: Full testimony is available on the [committee's website](#) under Feb. 15. **Insurance**

See separate story.

Health

The panel met briefly to accept the committee's rules for the new session and have members introduce themselves.

Chair Rep. Steve Huffman said the panel would not be meeting next week, and would not meet on Wednesday, April 5, the day after Gov. Kasich's State of the State address, which is scheduled to be held in Sandusky.

Finance: Agriculture, Development & Natural Resources Sub.

The panel started its budget review work with testimony from Sarah Creedon, executive director of the Liquor Control Commission. (Redbook)

"The Commission is an adjudicatory and rule-making agency that oversees Ohio's alcohol beverage industry. The agency's mission is to provide fair and impartial hearings to protect the public and the permit holders, and to ensure compliance with Ohio liquor laws and administrative rules," she said. "The agency also adopts and promulgates rules, standards, and requirements regarding alcohol sales in Ohio."

Ms. Creedon said the commission works with the Ohio Investigative Unit, the Attorney General's Office, the Division of Liquor Control, and the Department of Taxation to achieve its mission.

"The Division of Liquor Control is responsible for processing applications and issuing liquor permits. Permit holders can appeal division decisions rejecting liquor permit applications and renewals to the commission. As an adjudicatory body, the commission functions as an administrative court with the same duties and obligations of any court," she explained.

The executive budget provides LCC with \$844,553 in Fiscal Year 2018, which is an 4% over estimated FY 2017 spending, and \$851,269 in FY 2019, which is an increase of 1% from the

prior year. Ms. Creedon said the money for commission operations comes from a portion of liquor permit fee revenue.

"While the commission receives no GRF funding, the commission does contribute to the GRF by depositing all revenue it collects from financial forfeitures issued against permit holders for violations of Ohio's liquor laws and rules," she said. "In fiscal year 2016, the commission collected over \$1.2 million in financial fines and forfeitures and deposited those funds into the GRF. In the current fiscal year to date, over \$1 million was collected and deposited into the GRF."

Rep. Brigid Kelly (D-Cincinnati) asked about the impact of the growing craft brew industry on the panel. Ms. Creedon said that while permit requests have increased, she hasn't seen a related uptick in cases before the commission.

She similarly told Rep. Michael O'Brien (D-Warren) that she couldn't correlate a caseload increase because of the Investigative Unit's transfer to the Highway Patrol a few years ago. Ms. Creedon told Rep. Kelly that the commission plans updates to its database and other improvements with the additional funds in the budget.

Racing Commission: Executive Director William Crawford briefed the committee on the operations of the commission, which regulates horseracing in the state. It also uses no GRF, and instead is funded through taxes on wagers, licensing fees, other fees and fines, and a small percentage of casino revenue, he said. (Redbook)

"The majority of the Racing Commission's expenditures are for subsidies to the horseracing industry in the form of additions to purses at live horse races as well as supplements to purses for Ohio horses that win races at Ohio tracks and other promotional expenses," he said. "Regulation expenses include administration expenses which also include officials and veterinarians as well as drug-testing expenses, expenses that relate to investigation, licensing and the enforcement of rules."

The commission's budget request is about \$32.3 million a year over the upcoming biennium. In addition to the five commission members, RAC currently staffs eight full-time and seven part-time positions, according to the Legislative Service Commission. The agency contracts with two stewards, two judges, and five veterinarians.

Chairman Rep. Andy Thompson (R-Marietta) asked if declining casino and VLT revenue, which makes up a big chunk of the agency's budget, has impacted its finances. Mr. Crawford said it has not done so considerably.

Rep. Kelly asked about efforts to ensure safety for riders and horses.

Mr. Crawford said the inspection of racing surfaces, which the commission oversees, is the main concern in that regard and that stewards watch races to make sure they are run safely. He told Rep. O'Brien that stewards can cancel races when the temperature dips below a minus 10-degree wind chill factor or following consultation with jockeys and drivers.

Responding to the chairman, the witness said the commission spends about \$1.6 million a year on its drug testing program and investigating potential cheats is "a major concern of ours."

Racing Chairman Robert Schmitz briefly addressed the committee, explaining that the bulk of Ohio's racing industry is tied to Standardbreds and that with the installment of video lottery terminals at horse racetracks, has seen a resurgence after several years of declines.

A Standardbred breeder himself, Mr. Schmitz allowed that he bred his stock outside of Ohio for many years but now there's better breeding stock and other improvements due in part to increased funding from VLTs.

He said racing's impact to the state's agricultural industry is a "very, very big business."

Sea Grant Program: Christopher Winslow, director of the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, F.T. Stone Laboratory, and the Center for Lake Erie Area Research, testified in support of the program's budget and outlined its various education, research and outreach initiatives. (Testimony)

The program receives just under \$300,000 a year in state funding, which is used to leverage federal grants. (ODHE-Agriculture Redbook) The director said the program draws down about \$10 from other sources for every dollar of state funding it receives.

"Historically, Ohio Sea Grant has managed 8-10 research projects annually (~\$480,000). However, since April of 2015, we have increased that research portfolio dramatically. We currently have 119 projects listed within OSU's Office of Sponsored Program's research database," Mr. Winslow said in prepared testimony.

"The program is currently managing \$5 million in funding from the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE; \$4 million in two \$2 million allocations) and OSU's College of Food and Agricultural Sciences (Field to Faucet Initiative; \$1 million) to address Lake Erie harmful algal blooms."

Mr. Winslow said Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory "are exceptional programs and assets to the entire state."

"We solve environmental problems (more than 50 ongoing research projects), enhance the local economy (i.e., business retention and expansion programming), inform decision-makers, and improve the quality of science education in Ohio," he continued. "I would argue that since we first received funds in 1983, we have annually demonstrated that our line item is not a cost to Ohio, but a wise investment of valuable state funds."

Chairman Thompson lauded the public involvement promoted by the program and asked about invasive species.

The director said invasive mussels are "not going anywhere," and cited gobies as another example of non-native species that have infiltrated the Great Lakes. He said researchers are keeping an eye on four species of Asian carp, as they have made it up the Mississippi River drainage area to within 30 miles south of Lake Michigan.

Responding to questions about algae bloom research, he said the main source of nutrients that cause the problem can be traced to agriculture land management practices but that researchers aren't in the "finger-pointing" business. He said the group taps funds from two endowments to finance educational workshops for farmers on best practices in that regard. Mr. Winslow also told members of the committee that he is working with donors to generate funding for equipment upgrades.

In response to a question from Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin), he said buoys used for water quality research cost \$50,000-80,000 apiece.

Community & Family Advancement

HB 366 **MARRIAGE CEREMONIES (Vitale, N.)** To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage

and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. (**CONTINUED-AMENDED (See separate story)**); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Subscriber's note: Full testimony is available on the [committee's website](#) under Feb. 15.
Finance: State Government & Agency Review Sub.

The subcommittee began its review with the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. (Redbook)

Tim Derickson, the board's director, testified that a significant issue the agency is facing is the increasing problems with pre-need funeral services, in which a person pays in advance for the service. Cash-strapped funeral service providers sometimes use that prepaid money, which is supposed to be saved until the service is needed, to meet their bottom line. That trend causes an increase in the number of investigations and complaints, Director Derickson said, and the board is asking for more funding to add a staff member in two years to help with those investigations.

"To help solve this problem, I think this board needs a little help from what we're currently staffed at," he said.

He also said he expected legislation to be introduced this session with support from funeral home providers for a fee on pre-need services that would help cover costs of unmet pre-need services.

Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) suggested that legislation be introduced soon so it could be incorporated into the budget document, to avoid the board having expenses budgeted without the revenue to pay for them.

Chair **Rep. Keith Faber** (R-Celina) also discussed moving the money the board collects in fines to the General Revenue Fund, rather than returning it to the board, to avoid the appearance of the board fining businesses to meet its budget.

"If we were to make that transfer, you're going to need some additional revenue," Rep. Faber said.

The subcommittee also reviewed the Ohio Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs.

(Redbook) Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh said the commission's increased budget needs stem mostly from insurance and operating costs.

Asked by Rep. Faber what the commission would do if it did not receive the extra \$50,000 asked for in the budget, Ms. Cavanaugh said it would have to move a full-time position, one of three, to part-time.

"What is important is to know that through our commission, we're able to provide these agencies with an understanding of the Latino community, the language, the culture, thus decreasing those gaps in communication and culture," she said.

The panel also heard testimony in support of the commission from others, including Claudia de Leon, president of the Hispanic Chamber of Columbus. Ms. de Leon said the commission serves a vital role in the community.

"The Commission on Latino Affairs is a major bridge into the Hispanic community as well as a valuable resource to the Hispanic community - from creating more awareness of how our government works and the services available to help them achieve their educational or personal goals to alerting us of incoming or ongoing legislation that could have an impact to our increasing Hispanic population in Ohio," she said.

Another board reviewed by the panel was the Sanitarian Registration Board ([Redbook](#)), which Executive Secretary Stephanie Youst said registers people who are responsible for testing drinking water, inspecting restaurants and performing other public health tasks.

The board proposed an increase in fees, which Ms. Youst said would help cover the increased costs of a new licensure system, rent, supplies and other items.

Ms. Youst said the board is necessary because it ensures public health departments and others have licensed, trained and qualified staff.

"The reason that you need sanitarian registration is sanitarians are responsible for protecting public health," she said.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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Senate Activity for Wednesday, February 15, 2017

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

- SB 54** ■ **SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS** (Brown, E., Lehner, P.) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions. Am. 3313.813
Government Oversight & Reform

- SB 55** ■ **NURSE STAFFING** (Skindell, M.) To establish minimum ratios of direct-care registered nurses to patients in hospitals, to specify rights of registered nurses working in hospitals, and to prohibit retaliatory actions by hospitals against registered nurses. Am. 3727.50, 3727.51, 3727.52, and 3727.53 and to enact sections 3727.80 to 3727.88
Health, Human Services & Medicaid

- SB 56** ■ **STEP THERAPY** (Lehner, P., Tavares, C.) To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid. Am. 5167.12 and to enact sections 3901.82, 3901.821, 3901.822, 3901.823, 5164.7512, 5164.7513, and 5164.7514
Health, Human Services & Medicaid

- SR 37** ■ **CORPORATE PERSONHOOD** (Skindell, M.) To call on legislators at the state and federal level and other communities and jurisdictions to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would abolish corporate personhood and the doctrine of money as speech.
Transportation, Commerce & Workforce

INTRODUCED

- SB 57** ■ **AWARENESS DAY** (Kunze, S.) To designate the seventeenth day of May as "Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day." Am. 5.291

- SCR 4** ■ **BALLOT ARGUMENTS** (Peterson, B.) To delegate to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives authority to designate groups of members to prepare arguments for and against

amendments to the Ohio Constitution proposed by the General Assembly, a person or persons to prepare an argument for any law, section, or item submitted to the electors by referendum petition, and a person or persons to prepare an argument against any constitutional amendment proposed by initiative petition.

33-0

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PASSED

[SB 25](#)

PERRY COUNTY COURT (Hottinger, J.) To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2018, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017 and to declare an emergency.

33-0; Emergency: 33-0

[Gongwer Coverage](#)

REFERRED

Education:

[SB 39](#)

SCHOOL OPERATIONS (Schiavoni, J.) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools.

[Gongwer Coverage](#)

Energy & Natural Resources:

[SB 50](#)

OIL GAS LAWS (Skinell, M.) To prohibit land application and deep well injection of brine, to prohibit the conversion of wells, and to eliminate the injection fee that is levied under the Oil and Gas Law.

[SB 51](#)

LAKE ERIE (Skinell, M., Eklund, J.) To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement.

SB 53 ■ **LAKE ERIE DRILLING (Skindell, M.)** To ban the taking or removal of oil or natural gas from and under the bed of Lake Erie.

Finance:

SB 45 ■ **UNCLAIMED FUNDS (Williams, S.)** Regarding payment to a registered finder of unclaimed funds.

Government Oversight & Reform:

SB 44 ■ **CAMPAIGN FINANCE (LaRose, F.)** To allow certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those electronic statements available online.

Judiciary:

SB 40 ■ **AGGRAVATED MURDER (Eklund, J., Williams, S.)** To provide that a person convicted of aggravated murder who shows that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense cannot be sentenced to death for the offense and to provide a mechanism for resentencing to a life sentence a person previously sentenced to death who proves that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense.

SB 41 ■ **TESTIMONIAL PRIVILEGE (Eklund, J.)** To provide generally a testimonial privilege for communications between a qualified advocate rendering advocacy services and a victim of sexual violence, menacing by stalking, or domestic violence, to exempt the nondisclosure of that privileged communication from the offense of failure to report a crime, to require a qualified advocate to report knowledge or reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect of the victim except for privileged communications, and to specify circumstances in which the victim is considered to have waived the privilege.

SB 42

DRUG OFFENSES (Eklund, J.) To expressly provide that drug offense penalties that refer to a particular type of drug also apply to a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance containing a detectable amount of that drug and to declare an emergency.

Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs:

SB 43

BUILDING CODES (Bacon, K.) To enable limited home rule townships to adopt building codes regardless of any similar codes adopted by the county in which the township resides.

SB 48

HEARING IMPAIRMENTS (Williams, S.) To create a special license plate for hearing-impaired individuals and to require the Registrar to include an identifying symbol on a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or state-issued identification card of a hearing-impaired individual, if requested.

SB 52

MARRIAGE CEREMONIES (Skindell, M.) To allow any person or entity that registers with the secretary of state to solemnize marriages.

Transportation, Commerce & Workforce:

SB 46

ROAD NAMING (Williams, S.) To designate portions of United States Route 422 within the municipal corporations of Cleveland and Youngstown as the "Arnold R. Pinkney Memorial Way."

SB 47

NONCOMPETE LANGUAGE (Williams, S.) To prohibit the use of noncompete provisions in employment contracts in the broadcasting industry.

SB 49

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS (Williams, S.) To prohibit private employers from including on an employment application any question concerning whether an applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Ways & Means

SB 35 **TAX CREDIT (Skindell, M.)** To remove the income restriction on the earned income tax credit and to make the credit refundable beginning in 2017.
(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) said the bill is the same as his previous effort to make the Earned Income Tax Credit refundable and remove current credit income restrictions (SB21, 131st General Assembly).

Ohio's current EITC equals about 10% of the federal EITC, he said. For those with adjusted gross incomes exceeding \$20,000, the credit is capped at 50% of tax due. The legislation would remove that cap.

Sen. Skindell said reducing that cap and making the credit refundable will "go a long way in reducing Ohio's poverty rate." He added that 26 states have EITCs that are refundable.

"A state refundable EITC is targeted to help low to moderate income working individuals and families," he said. "A refundable state EITC would have a significant impact on the long term economic well-being of our low income wage earners and our local and state economy."

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) questioned how many Ohioans were able take advantage of the credit last tax year. She asked whether she is correct in observing that the bill would benefit those with lower incomes who would not have much of a tax liability in the first place. "Absolutely, and that's why we want to make it nonrefundable and remove those restrictions," Sen. Skindell replied, adding that a lower tax burden frees up money for clothing or other essentials for those low-income families.

Responding to further questions, Sen. Skindell said the Legislative Services Commission analysis of his bill last year indicated the total cost of the proposal would be around \$180 million. In the eight legislative sessions he's been pushing for the change, he said that number has been fairly stable.

SB 36 **AGRICULTURAL LAND (Hite, C.)** To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.
(CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 9 **SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Bacon, K.)** To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes. **(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) said his bill is the same as one he introduced last year that would institute a one-year sales tax holiday during the first weekend in August. (SB264, 131st General Assembly)

Although the sponsor said he still envisions a bill enacting a permanent annual holiday, he said he opted again for the one-time approach after it helped garner legislative and administrative support last session.

Once again the bill would create a three-day sales tax exemption on clothing items up to \$75 and on school supplies costing \$20 or less per item.

"Many of you may recall the first two sales tax holidays which were passed during the 131st General Assembly," he told the committee. "These events were highly advertised in every part of the state and very popular with Ohio residents. My office received letters of support from students, businesses, and educators following the first two sales tax holidays."

He again touted a study from the University of Cincinnati that determined the 2015 holiday landed the state \$4.7 million in additional revenue. He said the university is once against compiling a study of the 2016 holiday that will be shared with the committee upon completion.

Chairman Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) said it would be "extraordinarily helpful" to receive that report by Feb. 21, although Sen. Bacon expressed doubt about that timeline. Sen. Sean O'Brien (D-Hubbard) requested the study include, if possible, a breakdown of the impact on counties bordering Pennsylvania, which has no sales tax on clothing items.

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) questioned why the Kasich administration has yet to endorse the sales tax holiday as an annual event.

Sen. Bacon replied that in his conversations with the administration, the governor's staff is committed to using the most conservative form of budgeting. The administration was supportive of both previous one-off holidays, he said, "and we are hoping they will be again."

Subscribers Note: For full testimony, see the committee's website under Feb. 15.

Government Oversight & Reform

SB 10 PRIMARY ELECTIONS (LaRose, F.) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The bill's sponsor, Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Hudson), said it would eliminate the need for primary elections when only one candidate qualified for the ballot.

"I call this the superfluous primaries bill. This is that bill that is meant to address that rare situation where there is only one candidate on the ballot and we are forced to hold an election," he said.

The bill stems from a problem in which a special election is needed, costing taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, for a race that has already been decided, he said.

"The fix to this is simple," he said. "We trigger the need for an election on how many candidates are certified for the ballot, not how many candidates file petitions for the ballot."

Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) asked if it would apply if a candidate dropped out, leaving only one remaining.

"Essentially what this comes down to, if there's only one candidate left, then there's no need to hold an election," Sen. LaRose said.

SB 18 DAY DESIGNATION (Thomas, C.) To designate September 12 as "Jesse Owens Day." (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The bill would designate Sept. 12 as Jesse Owens Day, sponsor Sen. Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati) said. He was inspired after seeing the movie "Race" and learning that Jesse Owens was from Ohio.

Mr. Owens, who was born in Alabama, grew up in Cleveland and attended the Ohio State University, is best known for winning a record eight NCAA championships on the track in college and winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

"Jesse Owens is remembered as an ambassador for American ideals, both at home and abroad," Sen. Thomas said. "While his incredible athleticism is impressive on its own accord, his legacy is all the more noteworthy because of the character he showed in the face of bigotry. Recognizing Jesse Owens on his birthday - September 12 - is a fitting tribute for one of Ohio's greatest native sons."

SB 21 **ELECTION PROCEDURES** (Uecker, J.) To reduce the minimum number of precinct election officials in a precinct in which electronic pollbooks are used and to eliminate the requirement that a board of elections send a notice to a person's residence address when the board cancels the person's voter registration because it received a report of the person's death. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 28 **ABORTION** (Uecker, J.) Regarding final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Education

SB 34 **ACADEMIC YEAR** (Manning, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 8 **SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY & SAFETY** (Gardner, R., Terhar, L.) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Without discussion, the committee confirmed the governor's appointments of Eric Poklar, Rebecca Vasquez Skillings, Charlotte McGuire and Martha Manchester to the State Board of Education.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1092 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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House Passes Bills Dealing With Cocaine, Taxes, Gambling; Speaker Talks Collective Bargaining

Legislation to change how cocaine is accounted for in drug convictions passed the House unanimously Wednesday.

The House also advanced bills updating the state's tax code to align with federal changes and allowing Ohio casino employees to gamble at other casinos.

The cocaine bill (HB 42) passed unanimously after House members voted 95-1 to incorporate an emergency clause. That bill is designed to clarify the statute for how penalties for cocaine possession are assessed based on the amount of cocaine after an Ohio Supreme Court ruling interpreting the existing language, sponsor Rep. Robert Cupp (R-Lima) said. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 14, 2017)

The Supreme Court's decision in *State v. Gonzales* said the state must prove the actual weight of the cocaine included in compounds, excluding filler material, to use the amount for sentencing. Rep. Cupp said it would be costly and time-consuming for the state to invest in the laboratory equipment to prove that for these cases.

"The practical fact of the court's decision was to make every cocaine violation a fifth-degree felony unless the cocaine was pure," he said.

Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) said the bill, with the emergency clause, is needed now because there is currently no added penalty for trafficking in large amounts of cocaine compared to small amounts.

"As the law now stands, drug dealers and traffickers are incentivized to traffic in large quantities of cocaine," he said.

The House also voted unanimously to pass a bill (HB 112) to update the state's tax code with changes in federal law.

"As a CPA, I am well aware some of the tax laws can be a bit dull and difficult to understand, however this legislation is necessary so we can ensure Ohioans are able to fully benefit from the new federal laws this tax season," sponsor Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) said in a statement.

The other bill passed by the House (HB 322) would allow casino employees to gamble at other unaffiliated casinos in the state. Sponsor Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) said it simply gave casino employees the same right already given to racino employees.

"The only limitation by this bill is that you cannot be employed by or affiliated with the casino at which you are playing," Rep. Seitz said.

Speaker's Comments: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) told reporters after session that while a number of his caucus members are supportive of recently introduced "right-to-work" legislation (HB 53), it's not a focus for leadership.

"We're always going to have members that want to introduce bills and do things. That's in their prerogative to do," he said. "We'll have conversations with the caucus, but I don't know that we have a game plan going forward."

The speaker said many in the legislature remember what happened with the last attempt at similar legislation (SB5, 129th General Assembly), which was repealed by voters. There might not be broad enough support for it, he said, though the state is facing pressure as more states implement similar policies.

"Ultimately for the state, the right-to-work pathway is one which is probably taken to the ballot," he said.

Critics Take Aim At Several Portions Of Transportation Budget

Detractors of certain aspects of Gov. John Kasich's proposed two-year transportation budget on Wednesday spoke out against tax policy changes in the bill, urged more funding for public transportation and lobbied for increased fees for deputy registrars.

Testifying before the House Finance Committee, Matthew White, general counsel of IGS Energy, and Jason Phillips, policy director for Clean Fuels Ohio, both disagreed with a portion of the budget (HB 26) that would allow for the 28-cent-per-gallon Motor Fuel Tax to be levied on compressed natural gas. (Redbook)

Mr. White told the panel that the proposal would harm the fledgling industry while generating little revenue for the state.

"It would be unwise to now impose a tax on CNG in such an expedited manner without studying how the tax may harm the industry and without looking at the complexities of the tax code to ensure any tax is applied fairly," he said in testimony.

Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) questioned Mr. White on if he would be open to a phased-in approach.

In response, Mr. White said a phased-in tax may be appropriate when the CNG market share grows from its current 1% to 3% or more, but not in the current budget cycle.

"We would support a broader study of CNG, including how to incentivize it and how to make it work best for the state of Ohio," he said.

Rep. Adam Miller (D-Columbus) asked how much the federal alternative fuel tax credit weighs on his opposition to the MFT being imposed on CNG. Mr. White said given the political changes in the nation's capital, he is not hopeful that the federal tax credit will be renewed.

Mr. Phillips told the panel that financial incentives should be paired with the tax if it is imposed.

"Pennsylvania and other states that currently tax CNG pair this tax with a very healthy financial incentive to offset a new tax that would hurt the ROI," he said in testimony. "Pennsylvania has had an incentive program for several years, allocating over \$25 million to alternative fueled vehicle projects. It has been so successful that they have renewed the program."

Jeffrey Erb, president of the Ohio Association of Convenience Stores, raised concerns in his testimony over a proposal to change the point at which the MFT is collected. The proposed change would allow for the MFT to be collected at the refinery rack starting in 2018. Currently, the tax is paid at the wholesale level, giving business owners about a month after purchasing the motor fuel to sell it and collect taxes from customers before paying taxes to the state.

The change in the point of collection for the tax could generate as much as \$92 million per year in revenue, according to the Legislative Service Commission.

Mr. Erb said the change would negatively impact small businesses.

"I asked myself who would benefit by this change. The only answer I could come up with that made sense was big oil. They will be the ones to hold the excise tax if this change is made. There certainly is no crisis in collecting the excise tax now. The Ohio Business Gateway is very efficient for reporting and collecting the tax," he said.

"I also don't see this as being particularly helpful to the government. I hope the government does not see itself as more important than the honest hard working businessmen that produce goods and services that actually allow the government to function."

Rep. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon), the bill's sponsor, said in a recent interview that amendments are likely to address both of those issues. He also said a potential change allowing deputy registrar fees to increase could be in the works. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 13, 2017)

Aldo Filippelli, president of the Ohio Deputy Registrars' Association, said in his testimony that a fee change is warranted given the current \$3.50 level was set in 2004.

He requested the fee be boosted by \$2.50 with additional increases of 50 cents in 2020 and 2021.

Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay) questioned if it would be more appropriate to phase in such an increase over time.

Mr. Filippelli said that may have worked six or seven years ago, but at this point he is losing employees because of the salaries he is able to pay.

Joe Bowsher, a deputy registrar for the past two decades, said that since the last fee increase, operating costs have increased significantly.

"As an employer, I find that the wages that I pay are below other employers in my area including Wal-Mart, White Castle and most non-skilled positions. As a small business owner, it frustrates me that my employees are paid \$10 per hour with little or no benefits, and the state employees in the same job are earning \$6 more each hour plus benefits," he said in testimony. "For me to raise wages for my staff to the same amount as state employees would cost me over \$120,000 per year, not including taxes and benefits."

Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) questioned Mr. Bowsher on the number of his employees that receive public assistance. "The state of Ohio is not saving any money if your employees are on public benefits," he said.

Mr. Bowsher said that at least one of his 13 employees receives public assistance.

Several proponents of public transportation also urged lawmakers to make additional investments in the area.

Jason Warner, manager of government affairs at the Greater Ohio Policy Center, applauded a proposal to use federal money to increase funding for public transportation by \$10 million for a total of \$33 million. However, he said the state could do more and suggested than an additional \$17 million in federal funds be flexed for public transportation.

"Setting aside a total of \$50 million in FHWA funding to public transit will result in 7.5 fewer miles of highway expansion, or 24 miles of highway repaired per year. For perspective, ODOT paved 5,564 lane miles in 2015," he said in testimony.

"Allocating \$50 million per year of FHWA fund to transit-related capital investments will have negligible impact on Ohio's crucial highway maintenance and construction programs, while significantly improving safety, performance, and use of Ohio's public transportation systems."

Asked about the impact that public transportation can have on the tourism industry in a city, Mr. Warner used the example of Cleveland, which hosted the 2016 Republican National Convention, and Columbus, which lost out to Philadelphia for the Democratic National Convention. Public transportation played a major role in that, he said.

"There was no other method for them to get down to where the main convention site was going to be," he said of Columbus and the lack of transportation options from John Glenn International Airport.

Nathan Alley, transportation policy coordinator for the Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club, echoed many of those sentiments in his testimony. He told the panel that for every \$1 invested in public transit, it generates \$6 in economic activity.

"We appreciate the allocation of additional flex funding to transit in this proposed budget, but even with that allocation, it is our understanding that transit would still be left with a \$20 million deficit because of anticipated changes to our state sales tax structure," he said.

"Please do all that you can in this budget cycle to ensure that we achieve economic development, increase employment opportunities, reduce urban sprawl and congestion, and create more livable communities for all Ohioans."

Akshai Singh of Ohio for Transportation Equity told the panel that the state needs to invest \$192.4 million in capital and \$96.7 million in operating funds just to meet existing demand for public transportation services.

"Ohio needs a 21st century transportation system, made up not only of roads and highways, but also a complete network of affordable, accessible, and sustainable transportation options, including public transit, passenger and freight rail, electric buses and vehicles, and walk-able, bike-able streets. We need at least \$300 million a year - to address the cost of backlogged capital needs, and start to build a system of transit alternatives for the future," he said in testimony.

Katie Frederick, executive director of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio, asked lawmakers to increase funding for public transportation from its current level of 1% to 10%.

The Cincinnati chamber applauded the \$10 million increase in funding for public transportation, saying it will allow the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority to replace aging and outdated vehicles.

"At the beginning of this year, SORTA had 63 buses past their 12- year useful life," the group wrote. "Every year beyond this threshold means increased operating and maintenance costs. A 15- year- old bus costs 133% more to maintain than a 10- year-old bus. As of January, Metro had 40 buses that are 15 years old or older, resulting in more than \$500,000 in additional annual operating expense. This additional \$10M can help unlock federal resources to more rapidly replace the outdated fleet that currently transports people throughout our region."

The group also said that it would be supportive of an amendment to increase funding to Transportation Improvement District across the state. It also noted its support for increased investment in transportation technology.

"As you review programs to pilot innovations in transportation, we look forward to working with you to identify opportunities in southwest Ohio to deploy new technology and bring our state to the fore of innovation in transportation," it wrote.

Also providing testimony was Shane Lieurance, a deputy registrar, and the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, the latter in written form.

Senate Committee Debates Bill On Poll Workers, Death Notifications By Election Boards

A Senate panel Wednesday questioned a bill that would reduce the minimum number of election officials needed at certain precincts and change requirements for boards of elections to notify households when deceased individuals are removed from voter rolls.

Members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee said they wanted to ensure polling places have proper supervision and that people know if they are mistakenly removed from voter rolls.

The bill (SB 21) would grant permissive authority for county boards of elections to reduce the minimum number of election officials from four to two in multi-precinct locations that use electronic poll books, sponsor Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) said.

"Electronic poll books are revolutionizing voting in precincts across Ohio," he said. "These digital tablets are currently utilized by fifty-five counties. Their use will continue to increase as more counties take advantage of enacted state funds to assist in the cost. Electronic poll books eliminate reliance on traditional paper poll books creating a better and more efficient experience for voters and poll workers."

That authority is permissive, meaning boards of elections would have the right to do so but would not be required, he said.

Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) said she was worried the county board would be pressured to cut costs even if they didn't think it was the best course of action.

"My concern is that county commissioners might pressure boards of elections to make these reductions and then perhaps cause other problems," she said.

Sen. Uecker said the bill would help county boards in areas where one party is dominant and they have trouble finding enough election officials of the other party.

"I think it makes a more proper as well as a more efficient election process," he said.

Sen. Brown suggested the bill require it to be a bipartisan decision by the board of elections to reduce the number of election officials required, and the sponsor said he'd be open to exploring possible amendments.

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Hudson) said he was worried that having fewer election officials could mean there would be times when only officials from one party were working.

"When there's only two, my worry would be that during the normal ebb and flow of the day as people take a lunch break, a bathroom break, that you have bipartisan oversight," he said.

The bill would also remove a requirement that a board of election send notice to a person's address when the board cancels a voter registration because it received a report of his or her death. Families have complained to boards of elections, Sen. Uecker said, about the emotional toll of receiving such notices.

Sen. LaRose said he was concerned that removing the requirement could lead to voters accidentally being removed from the rolls and not finding out until they go to vote. He said that recently happened to a Legislative Service Commission staffer.

"The idea was that just like any other change in voting status, there would be a notification sent to the household," he said.

Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) said stopping the notifications could lead to some people being unable to vote. That outweighs the concerns of families who are upset by receiving the notification, he said.

"Causing cancellation is the greater harm," he said.

Sen. Brown said she would like to hear more from county boards of elections about how they receive death notifications.

Sen. Uecker said he would be open to whatever the committee decides to do with the provision, but asked that members keep an open mind and hear testimony from local election officials.

Dating Protection Order Bill Eyed For Quick Committee Approval

A priority House bill to permit domestic partners to obtain civil protection orders appears poised for quick committee passage, according to the committee's chairman.

The measure (HB 126) would close a loophole that sponsor Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) said "leaves thousands of Ohioans without recourse in the event of dating violence."

After a first hearing Wednesday featuring emotional testimony from domestic violence survivors and advocates, House Civil Justice Committee Chairman Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood) said the bill should move quickly.

"We'll probably have it for a possible vote next week," he said.

That's good news for Rep. Sykes and other advocates who were disheartened when the bill which had been on the verge of passing fizzled out during the lame duck session when the Senate declined to take a concurrence vote.

In that case, the language from Rep. Sykes and former Rep. Christie Kuhns was amended into a separate bill on the House floor during the final night of session. The Senate then opted not to move the bill, saying the amendment was too "complicated" to pass at the zero hour. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 9, 2016)

Now the bill is back with the support of Republican House leadership and with Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) stepping in as lead co-sponsor in place of former Rep. Kuhns.

In her testimony, Rep. Sykes said abuse victims who don't meet the statutory definition of domestic violence have too little recourse to protect themselves and their children.

"House Bill 1 is necessary because Ohio currently defines domestic violence as violent acts occurring between spouses, family members, those cohabiting, living as spouses, or individuals who share a child in common," Rep. Sykes said. "People in ongoing, substantial, intimate, and dating relationships are not included."

Rep. Manning emphasized the bill would not create an additional class of protection order. Rather, it would fold domestic partners into those eligible to apply for existing orders.

"Due to the risk of ongoing violence in these situations, it is important that all victims of abuse have resources to protect themselves," Rep. Manning said. "Many people argue that a piece of paper is not going to protect someone from harm, but studies have shown that violence stops completely or is significantly reduced when a protection order is in place."

Others testifying in support included representatives from the Summit County Victim Assistance Program, Northeast Ohio Medical University and its police department, and Cleveland Clinic Akron General along with a Summit County Juvenile Court judge.

But perhaps the most powerful testimony came from a pair of domestic violence survivors who described in detail their experience.

Victoria Morgan described having her own protection order request rejected only to see her attacker later force his way into her home and kick her twice down a staircase.

"A lot of times, people only think about the physical signs of abuse," she said. "But the emotional is so much worse. Going through counseling, putting my children through counseling. ... I urge you to pass this bill. It's needed."

Liv Out Loud Founder and CEO Diana Clark recounted her experience in which she ended a relationship, and then her ex-boyfriend arrived at her new home with a gun, trapping her inside.

"After about an hour, he finally let up from the door and I went to reach for the doorknob and he shot me twice at point blank range, once in the chest and once in the wrist," she said.

"My life was spared, but another life could be lost due to lack of proper protection and services to turn to," she continued. "HB 1 can provide adequate help for individuals in need. I am determined to fight for individuals who are victimized; therefore I am determined to fight for HB 1."

Opponents Of 'Pastor Protection Act' Warn Of LGBT Discrimination, But Speaker Expresses Support

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger indicated support Wednesday for a controversial bill on same-sex marriage, which a couple hours later was the target of intense criticism from several clergy members and other opponents.

Similar legislation (HB286, 131st General Assembly) was introduced in the last legislative session but never cleared committee.

However, Speaker Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) said after session the bill (HB 362) is a priority for many House Republicans, and that it would reaffirm protections already enshrined in the Ohio Constitution.

"We have a lot of people in the caucus interested to see something happen with this," he told reporters.

The speaker said his caucus is going to talk more about the bill next week.

"The state constitution already provides for a lot of protections and I think what we'll be doing is passing a bill that just reaffirms that," he said.

Prior to Wednesday's committee testimony, which focused on opponents, Rep. Nino Vitale (R-Urbana) amended the bill with language he said would clarify that it does not invalidate other rights of clergy members.

Afterward, a Democratic lawmaker, nearly a dozen pastors and others denounced the controversial measure, which would codify that no licensed minister or religious organization is required to perform or host a marriage ceremony that does not conform to their religious beliefs.

Delivering testimony to the panel, Rep. Nickie Antonio said the so-called Pastor Protection Act is unnecessary, offensive to members of Ohio's LGBT community and has the potential to damage the state economically.

The Lakewood Democrat said in testimony that both federal and state law provide religious freedom protections that prevent ministers and religious institutions from being forced to take part in wedding ceremonies with which they disagree. She likened the legislation to a controversial North Carolina law that prevented local governments from implementing anti-discrimination laws and forced transgendered individuals to use the restroom of their birth gender.

"If we codify discrimination in Ohio through this bill, we could open the floodgates to confusion and the public's overall disgust with discriminatory legislation," she said. "We need look no further than North Carolina to know that bills that would codify discrimination, don't sell. In North Carolina, PayPal cancelled 400 jobs, Bruce Springsteen canceled his concert, the NBA pulled the All-Star Game, and the NCAA moved its championship games out of state, costing millions, if not billions in lost revenue and payroll."

Rep. Antonio instead suggested that lawmakers move legislation that would ban LGBT discrimination in employment and housing.

"No matter how this debate goes forward I believe it is important for us to remember that we may disagree and discern another person or group to be wrong-but when that discernment causes us to value another person or group less, then we've crossed the line into judgment, condemnation, and exclusion," she said. "I am hopeful we will not cross that line. I respect the members of the clergy who have concerns my hope is that we will experience mutual respect for the dignity and worth of all couples including same sex couples."

Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) asked Rep. Antonio, the first openly gay member of the Ohio legislature, if she and her married partner considered having their wedding ceremony in a place of worship that is not open to non-traditional marriage.

"We went to the place that we knew would embrace us, that would celebrate us," Rep. Antonio replied.

Rep. Michael Sheehy (D-Oregon) asked if she is aware of any lawsuits filed due to a member of the clergy's failure to solemnize a marriage. Rep. Antonio said she is not aware of any such litigation. Even so, she said the bill would not prevent such a lawsuit from being filed.

"With or without this law, anyone in Ohio has the ability to file a lawsuit if they feel they have been wronged," she said.

Rev. Virginia Lohmann Bauman, senior pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Columbus, called the legislation "a thinly veiled attempt to legitimize bigotry" and drew a

comparison with the U.S. Supreme Court case of *Loving v. Virginia*, in which the high court struck down laws banning interracial marriage.

"And yet for decades after that case was decided, and in fact, even today, racist pastors in their own churches refuse to marry, with impunity, inter-racial couples they deem unfit to be married in their church," she said in her testimony. "And that right to officiate, or not, in the pastor's own house of worship, is constitutionally protected by our federal and state constitutions. Interestingly, at no time after the *Loving* decision did the Ohio legislature find it necessary to 'protect' pastors from being 'forced' to marry inter-racial couples outside of that pastor's faith beliefs."

Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) took issue with the characterization that the legislation is an attempt to "legitimize bigotry" and questioned Ms. Lohmann Bauman on how she could be so certain that there is no need for the measure.

"There is no precedent for this. How can you say this is redundant?" he asked.

Ms. Lohmann Bauman responded by saying that it is not the job of the legislature to legislate "hypothetical fears" and said that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy in the *Obgerfell* decision legalizing same-sex marriage made clear that it would not interfere with religious protections provided by the First Amendment.

Rep. Ron Hood (R-Ashville) questioned whether Ms. Lohmann Bauman was characterizing those members of the clergy who support the measure as bigots. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 8, 2017)

"I do believe they are asking the legislature to do something inappropriate," she said, adding that the question would be best answered by each of the members of the clergy supporting the legislation.

Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland) asked Ms. Lohmann Bauman if she is aware of any lawsuits filed against a member of the clergy that has refused to conduct a marriage ceremony for any reason.

"There are none that I'm aware of," she said.

Ms. Lohmann Bauman was among 11 members of the clergy that submitted testimony in opposition to the bill.

Rev. Joseph M. Cherry of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland raised the specter that the legislation could pave the way to allow civil servants to discriminate against members of the LGBT community.

"Civil servants must fulfill the law or face the consequences," he said in his testimony. "They are not subject to exception based upon their faith, religion or tradition. If they do not wish to perform all of the duties that their civil position requires, they are free to seek other employment. No one is conscripted into civil service."

Rev. J. Bennett Guess of the United Church of Christ, who said he refused to sign marriage licenses for the 11-year period in which the ban against same-sex marriage was enshrined in the state constitution, called the bill "a solution in search of a non-existent problem."

"'Bogus' is the only word I have for it," he said in prepared testimony. "While purportedly designed to protect clergy and places of worship from performing or hosting marriages against their wishes, it is unnecessary and a complete waste of taxpayers' time and money."

Opposition testimony, however, was not confined to members of the cloth and Rep. Antonio Alana Jochum of Equality Ohio told the panel that the legislation gives wide latitude to undefined "religious societies."

"Religious entities play many roles in our state. Catholic Charities and Salvation Army, for example, provide a host of social services, crisis intervention, temporary housing, after school programs, and even food assistance. Many receive state and federal funding to do so, and are obligated to serve everybody equally in these programs," she said in prepared testimony. "Religious entities, therefore, are not always simply 'houses of worship'; they also include entities that engage in commerce -- by operating conference centers, reception halls, engaging in equipment rental, and much more."

Lisa Wurm, policy manager for the ACLU of Ohio, said her organization would defend the freedom of religion if clergy members were required to conduct marriages that violate their religious tenets.

"At the same time, we will not allow the guise of religious freedom to harm others," she said in prepared testimony. "This is what it means when religious liberty turns from acting as a shield to a sword. We've rejected the sword approach during the civil rights era, when religion was used as a reason to refuse integration in businesses and in our public areas. We need to continue to reject it now."

Senate Resumes Debate Over Disposal Of Fetal Remains

Legislation dealing with the disposition of fetal remains from abortions had its first hearing in a Senate committee Wednesday, with some members voicing concerns that it would face legal challenges.

The bill (SB 28) is similar to one introduced last session (SB254, 131st General Assembly) as part of a flurry of legislation that followed an investigation by Attorney General Mike DeWine into the disposal of remains.

The measure's sponsor, Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland), told the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee the bill is designed to ensure the proper disposal of remains.

"Last year it was brought to my attention that the Ohio Revised Code does not contain procedures regarding the disposal of aborted infant remains," he said. "In fact, most states lack such policies."

The bill declares that an abortion facility can only dispose of aborted remains through cremation or interment and grants the mother the right to determine the final disposition of remains, Sen. Uecker said. It would also require the Department of Health to maintain records of the woman's decision and the final disposition.

Sen. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.), the ranking Democrat on the panel, said similar legislation in Indiana and Texas has been challenged and overturned in courts, and he was worried it was setting the state up for expensive legal issues.

He also said there didn't appear to be any real reason for the bill, as investigations have not turned up a pattern of problems with the disposal of remains.

"I know as legislators, we get contacted by people asking us to look at possible legislation and here's the reason why," he said. "I just can't think of the reason why in this case."

Sen. Uecker said the state should take steps to ensure fetal remains are respected.

"I believe that the right to life is the very first right we have, possibly the most important right we have," he said. "I believe that the way society shows this is crucial."

He also said he believed there were differences between his bill and the legislation in Texas and Indiana, and that it would be more likely to withstand judicial scrutiny.

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Hudson) asked if the bill would apply to all fetal remains or just those from surgical abortions. The sponsor said it would only apply to the remains from surgical abortions.

Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) asked if it was appropriate for the state to single out one kind of fetal remains.

"What state interest is being served by the unequal treatment of just surgical fetuses versus any other fetal death?" he asked.

Chairman Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) said he and the committee will take a serious look at vetting all of the legal implications of the bill with the hopes of avoiding burdening the state with lawsuits.

Senate Advances Measure Creating Perry County Municipal Court

Once again, the Senate unanimously passed legislation to establish a county municipal court in Perry County.

The latest 33-0 vote, during a session Wednesday, marked the third time the chamber has approved the bill. In the most recent instance, the bill cleared the Senate, only to be held up in a House committee during the 2016 lame duck session. (SB 299, 131st General Assembly)

"This will be the third time this body has voted on this and it's my hope the House can act expeditiously on it and we can secure timely order of justice for the citizens of Perry County," sponsor Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) told colleagues on the Senate floor.

In addition to creating the court, the bill (SB 25) authorizes one full-time judgeship and provides for the nomination of that judge by petition. Upon its effect, the bill would abolish the existing Perry County Court and designate the county's clerk of courts as the clerk of the newly formed court.

Supporters - including the Ohio Supreme Court - say the court is needed after New Lexington eliminated its mayor's court in 2013, a cost-saving move that increased the caseload of other county courts from 1,800 cases a year to between 5,000-6,000 cases a year.

The bill contains an emergency clause, which was accepted by a 33-0 vote. That provision was necessitated, Sen. Hottinger said, by a committee amendment requested by the Ohio Supreme Court.

Added earlier this week, the amendment allows members of the Criminal Justice Recodification Committee to continue serving after they're no longer officeholders.

The Senate also unanimously passed a resolution (SCR 4) that permits the Senate President and House Speaker to appoint individuals to write arguments for and against proposed constitutional amendments.

Similar provisions have been passed unanimously each session since 1974, said sponsor Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina).

Obhof Gaggle: Speaking to reporters after session, Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said he anticipates the chamber will act quickly on approving the governor's request for a joint session April 4 in Sandusky for the State of the State address. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 13, 2017)

Formal resolutions to convene the joint session had not been introduced by lawmakers in either chamber as of Wednesday afternoon.

"I think it's a great opportunity to showcase some of our natural resources, particularly the lake," he said. "I've spoken with (Sen. Randy) Gardner several times about possible activities up there and I think this will give us a chance to focus on some of the water quality efforts we've done over the last few years and maybe some that are coming up and to highlight Ohio's tremendous tourism industry."

He said the Senate could hold two or three committee meetings on site in Sandusky, although no firm plans have been made.

Asked about the recent introduction of a House right-to-work bill (HB 53), Sen. Obhof said the issue isn't a priority for Senate leadership.

"As with any piece of legislation, we'll give thoughtful consideration to anything that comes to our chamber," he said. "I would say you'd have to speak to the individual caucus members but we have done significant reforms in recent years."

"I'm not aware of anybody in the Senate that plans to introduce a bill about that subject but there are 33 members and I haven't called the other 32 to see where everybody is on what bills everyone's introducing. I don't micromanage like that," he continued.

Bill To Start School After Labor Day Will Get Thorough Review, Lehner Says

It is unlikely that watchers of a bill that would move the first day of school to after Labor Day will know soon whether it has the Senate Education Committee's support.

Chairwoman Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) said she's planning for long discussions on the bill (SB 34) as well as another to create a funding program for school technology infrastructure upgrades (SB 8).

"I think both of the ones that were in (committee) today are going to require a fair amount of hearings," she said.

The panel will also extensively review anticipated legislation on end-of-course exams and student suspensions in addition to a recently referred bill (SB 39) addressing questions about e-school attendance tracking, she said.

The school start date measure, sponsored by Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville), has generated considerable buzz among school districts and parents since it was first unveiled late in the last General Assembly.

Waiting to open schools until after Labor Day would alleviate issues caused by a lack of air conditioning or functioning windows in schools when it is hot, as well as give families more time to vacation, Sen. Manning said.

"This additional vacation time for families also helps to promote economic activity," she said. "This can create and maintain jobs, providing additional local tax revenues that support our schools and local public safety resources."

Sen. Manning stressed that the bill shouldn't interfere with local control because it has an opt-out provision allowing school boards to continue setting the start dates of their choosing. Boards would be required to hold a public hearing before voting to opt out.

The change from calculating the school year in days to hours would also make it possible for districts to maintain their current end dates while pushing back the start date, she added.

While tourism industry leaders are expected to once again testify in support of the measure that they say will benefit the state's economy, it's likely many school districts won't be in favor.

Sen. Lehner said after the meeting that she's "open to" starting school in September because other states already require it without issue. However, she acknowledged there could be logistical problems and that public hearings on the issue have the potential to cause rifts between schools and parents.

"At what point does it become an opt out versus a, 'Hell no we won't go,'" she questioned.

Regardless of concerns and the inability of the proposal to pass through previous legislatures, the chairwoman at the end of Wednesday's discussion promised Sen. Manning that the bill will continue to be seriously considered.

The committee also heard sponsor testimony on a bill to allow schools that are low on the School Facilities Commission's priority funding list to receive dollars now for technology and safety upgrades. A companion measure (HB 37) started its journey through the House Education and Career Readiness Committee on Tuesday. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 14, 2017)

Joint sponsor Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) said he'll be pushing to move the bill through the upper chamber before spring break.

"This was a recommendation in Senate Bill 3 (in the 130th General Assembly), but this amps this issue up another notch to do something that we believe can be very meaningful for schools and school children around the state," he said of the bill that would require the School Facilities Commission to create a technology infrastructure funding program as opposed to current law that permits it.

Sen. Gardner told committee members that the two-page bill would give OSFC the ability to structure the program in the way it deems best after receiving input from stakeholders.

Despite his optimism that the bill will be reported out of committee in the next few weeks, Sen. Lehner said it will likely require multiple hearings and stakeholder meetings to continue "ironing out some of the questions."

She suggested that the sponsors consider whether charter schools would be eligible for the funding and Sen. Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) raised questions about if and how district priority would be determined.

Victim's Rights Group Announces Campaign Kickoff

Law enforcement officials and advocates on Wednesday announced the official kickoff of a statewide campaign to enshrine new requirements for the treatment of crime victims into the Ohio Constitution.

Supporters of the so-called Marsy's Law, named after a murder victim who died in 1983 and patterned after similar laws in other states, appeared at a Statehouse news conference and urged support for the changes, which if the coalition is successful would appear on the Nov. 7 ballot.

The Marsy's Law for Ohio amendment would mandate that crime victims: Receive notification of all legal proceedings; are provided the opportunity to be heard during the various steps of the process, such as parole hearings; are allowed to give input on plea deals; and are provided restitution resulting from the financial impact of the crime.

"By placing guarantees into the Ohio Constitution that a victim's rights will be protected, Marsy's Law for Ohio will be another important tool for prosecutors in the battle to help crime victims," longtime Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien said in a statement.

While the state's constitution already includes some protections for crime victims, supporters of the amendment say they don't go far enough.

"The rights of crime victims are too important to be allowed to fall through the cracks in the criminal justice system," Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin said. "I have long believed that the rights of crime victims should be respected just as much as the rights of the accused. Marsy's Law for Ohio is a much-needed change to Ohio's constitution."

Also appearing at Wednesday's event were representatives of crime victim advocacy groups and survivors of violent crimes.

"My rights as a victim in the domestic violence case against my husband were routinely violated and no one in the system seemed to care," crime victim Danielle Morlan said. "Marsy's Law for Ohio will change that and give crime victims the ability to protect and enforce their rights."

The campaign committee was cleared to begin collecting signatures last week when the Ohio Ballot Board agreed the proposal constituted a single issue. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 8, 2017)

Supporters have until July 5 to gather 305,591 valid signatures and meet other requirements to qualify for the fall ballot.

Lawmaker: CAUV Formula A 'Major Butt-Kicker' For Farmers

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) on Wednesday renewed his effort to overhaul the Current Agricultural Use Value tax formula in testimony before the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

The proposal he outlined (SB 362) is identical to his prior bill on the subject (SB246, 131st General Assembly), he said. But he's hoping this year's bill will fare better than the last, which received six hearings in the Senate but failed to advance beyond committee.

"I understand the angst. I'm sure the Department of Taxation is going to pull their hair out," Sen. Hite said. "We've been thinking about this and talking about this for a long time. It's time to do something. It's time to give relief to these farmers."

Farmer groups for their part have already vowed to "carry the CAUV fairness fight into 2017." They say the formula that has worked fine for decades has become skewed and is driving up their tax burdens, threatening to force them out of the profession. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 20, 2016)

Opponents, including statewide school groups, have previously opposed the change out of concerns it will negatively impact school funding.

Predicting that those concerns will return before the committee in testimony this session, Sen. Hite urged lawmakers to put themselves in the position of farmers.

"If any of you were doing your taxes this time of year and you discovered your taxes were going to go up 300% you would freak out, especially if you're on a fixed income, especially if you're a brand new, let's say, farmer trying to get started," he said."

The bill would prohibit the use of certain nonagricultural factors in the valuation of farmland, which the sponsor said would improve the accuracy of the formula.

"Including these assumptions has no bearing upon the land's capability to produce agricultural income, which is the sole purpose of the CAUV formula," he said. "These factors arbitrarily inflate the value of farmland based on market considerations and do not in any way account for how much income is achieved."

The bill would also remove disincentives to engage in conservation practices, which he said undermines the formula's original intent to preserve land.

"If I don't have an incentive to keep my woodlands, I'm going to plow them down and make more money," Sen. Hite said. Although that is currently happening, he said, it's not yet occurring on a large scale.

He acknowledged that the taxation percentage for some farmers is currently going down, but asked lawmakers to keep that in perspective.

"To me going from (a) 350% (increase) to 310% is going down but, in layman Coach Hite language, it's a major butt-kicker anyway," he said. "It's not even apples and oranges. It's like apples and squirrels."

In response to questions, Sen. Hite committed to providing specific numbers on several aspects of the issue to senators moving forward. Among the unanswered questions was how the CAUV applies to urban farmers.

Sen. Hite did express support for an idea from Sen. Louis Terhar (R-Cincinnati) to implement a "collar" on the formula so that the taxes owed in any one year could not rise above or drop below specific levels.

"But there's a caveat," Sen. Hite replied. "The formula from the '70s has the capacity to also go down and so if you change that formula the chances of going way down would be eliminated with the (collar). I don't know what is better."

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) requested more detail on woodland preservation regarding the CAUV. Sen. Hite replied that the woodland in question is typically small and serves as a wind or snow buffer. Under the current formula, however, farmers stand to gain money from clearing that land to free up new farmland, he said.

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) agreed that something must be done. He criticized a time lag present in the formula in which farms going through tough times are still paying taxes for healthy years from 2012 and 2013. Meanwhile, he said, the industry is struggling with historically low interest rates and simultaneously high crop prices.

"We just have to update the rules and make them fit the times," Sen. Hackett said.

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) agreed the historically low capitalization rates have "skewed the formula" and forced land values to be higher than they should be.

Predicting a robust discussion on the issue as the bill moves forward, Sen. Hite requested committee members keep in mind the importance agriculture plays in Ohio's economy. Potential farmers are being deterred from entering the profession, he said.

"We can't allow that to happen when it's our number one industry in the state of Ohio," he said. "This is a change to make sure we preserve that."

Insurers, Regulators Eyeing DC For Health Policy Changes

State insurance regulators and the health insurance industry are closely monitoring the federal debate over the future of the Affordable Care Act to determine the impact that changes could have on Ohio consumers and the marketplace, stakeholders told a House panel on Wednesday.

Jillian Froment, deputy director of the Ohio Department of Insurance, and Miranda Motter, president and CEO of the Ohio Association of Health Plans, both said changes could have a far-reaching impact on the Ohio market.

Ms. Froment told the House Insurance Committee that the full impact of any federal changes won't be known until a final product is in place.

She said, however, that insurers will be filing their 2018 rates and policies within the next two months. "We are incredibly concerned about what this looks like for Ohio," she said.

Ms. Froment noted that those filings will be based on current law. If there are changes, ODI will have to be flexible to accommodate for adjustments.

"At this point, they're looking for clarity," she said of insurers. "And that's what the department's looking for."

Ms. Motter said federal changes could either bring stability or volatility to insurance markets.

The federal law, she said, did little to address health care costs, and said efforts should be made to identify key cost drivers - including medical service rates and prescription costs. Further, she said OAHP wants to increase transparency so Ohioans have more information about the cost of the medical services they are obtaining.

Other key cost-related issues, she said, are state and federal mandates, taxes and fees.

ODI: In an introductory presentation, Ms. Froment told the panel the agency regulates insurers and agents across Ohio, and is pleased that Ohio is home to a robust insurance industry. The agency's goal is to assure consumer protection while promoting a stable and competitive environment.

She said Ohio is the sixth-largest state by premium volume, and represents the world's 17th-largest insurance market.

She told Rep. Michael Henne (R-Clayton) that the use of data analytics is at the center of the rate-setting process. Rates, she said, need to be tied to the risk of loss or expense.

Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) asked how the department will be reviewing auto insurance rates with the expected increase in the use of automated vehicles.

Ms. Froment said that will be a big issue in the future, adding the agency expects the industry to come to an agreement the same way insurance issues were addressed with ride-sharing services like Uber.

Discussions on that front are ongoing with large auto insurers, she said. "We're seeing them come to the table with some really good ideas."

OAHP: Ms. Motter said her members want to promote quality care and affordable coverage.

She said 52% of Ohioans receive their coverage through employer-sponsored plans, and a majority of those employer plans are self-insured. That means local business leaders are often the ones determining the scope of coverage for the majority of Ohioans.

A key issue for insurers is the cost of health services, Ms. Motter said. "If health care is expensive, health insurance is expensive," she said.

Ms. Motter also said lawmakers can take another step to address Ohio's opioid problem by limiting the availability of medication that can be addictive. She said OAHP backs federal recommendations to reduce the number of pills that are issued to treat certain conditions.

She also told Rep. Wes Rutherford (R-Middletown) that the group opposes budget language that would eliminate transparency reforms that were included in the previous budget bill.

Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) raised questions about the importance of having health insurance coverage be portable, given new research indicating that many young people will change jobs many times over their lives. Ms. Motter said that is an issue that can be discussed among member plans.

OII, AOLIC: Dean Fadel of the Ohio Insurance Institute and Greg Lestini, representing the Association of Ohio Life Insurance Companies, also briefed the committee on the role and scope of their members' industries.

Mr. Fadel said there are 972 property and casualty companies licensed to do business in Ohio, and strong competition helps keep the state's average rates well below national averages.

The state's average auto insurance rate is the 12th lowest, while the average homeowner's insurance rate is 30% less than the national average, he said.

He said the industry is a key economic driver, accounting for a significant number of employees and economic activity.

Mr. Fadel said the industry is pleased that a number of educational institutions have added insurance-related programs and certificates, saying that training is important to the industry's future in Ohio.

Mr. Lestini also said Ohio is fortunate to have some of the lowest-cost life insurance options available.

He said 40 life insurers are domiciled in the state, and all insurers have six million policies valued at \$960 billion in place. Life insurance companies also make other contributions to the state by investing in mortgages and owning property, he said.

Mr. Lestini said Ohio is known as a stable state in terms of regulation, and it is important that the premium tax the industry pays is preserved. He also cautioned lawmakers against imposing new taxes on out-of-state insurers, saying the threat of retaliatory taxes could create issues for Ohio companies that sell policies elsewhere.

Subscribers Note: The presentations are available on the committee's website under Feb. 15.

Survey Shows Restaurant Owners Optimistic; Cedar Fair Has Record Fiscal Year; Diebold, DDR Report Financials

Restaurant owners and operators entered the new year with optimism after a strong finish to 2016, according to Ohio Restaurant Association survey results.

Restaurateurs in the state told ORA that they're planning for a 4% same-store sales increase in 2017 after experiencing an average 3% sales increase across the industry last year.

"The Ohio restaurant scene is dynamic with growth opportunities for concepts with outstanding brand positioning, great food, A+ guest service and flexible models that offer many customer touch points such as mobile ordering and delivery," ORA President and CEO John Barker said in a statement.

"Same-stores sales in Ohio during the fourth quarter were positive for our industry, up more than 3% as we experienced mild weather and strong traffic around the holidays," he added. "Growth slowed in January, but owners are bullish about the year due to strong consumer confidence and a soaring stock market."

About 80 restaurateurs throughout the state with an average of 2.5 restaurants and revenue per company of about \$5.7 million replied to the survey, which also asked about food delivery utilization, food delivery impact, off-premise occasions, and food and labor cost outlooks.

Cedar Fair: The Sandusky-based theme park company continued to break records in 2016, ending the year with \$1.29 billion in revenues.

It reported the revenues, which were up 4% from 2015, along with net income, that came in at \$178 million, or \$3.14 per diluted limited partner unit.

The increases go hand-in-hand with others, including a 3% jump in attendance to 25.1 million guests last year, the company said. Average in-park spending also increased 2% to a record \$46.90 per guest.

Out-of-park spending also hit record numbers, coming in at \$146 million - a 6% increase from 2015. Cedar fair attributed those revenues in part to higher occupancy rates and average daily room rates at the company's resort properties.

"We credit this achievement to our unique regional brands and the positive responses we have received for our special events programming and immersive entertainment offerings," CEO Matt Ouimet said. "These individual park brands allow us to provide our guests an experience unmatched by other generic amusement parks. This in turn has resulted in strong guest loyalty within the regions we operate and decades of record growth across all revenue channels."

Based on the year-end earnings report, the company said it's confident it will achieve its long-term growth goal of \$500 million in Adjusted EBITDA by the end of 2017, which is a year earlier than planned.

Diebold Nixdorf: The company reported fourth-quarter revenue of \$1.2 billion - an increase of nearly 104% over last year as a result of the acquisition of Wincor Nixdrof.

Full-year revenue also increased 37.1% to \$3.3 billion compared to 2015, the company said. It cautioned, however, that comparisons to previous periods are materially affected by the August acquisition.

DDR: The Beachwood company posted fourth quarter net income attributable to common shareholders of \$28.1 million, or \$0.08 per diluted share

For its full fiscal year ended Dec. 31, it reported net income of \$37.6 million, or \$0.10 per diluted share. That's an improvement over last year, when it saw a net loss of \$94.5 million, or \$0.27 per diluted share.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, February 16

~~Canceled: Real Estate Appraiser Board, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.~~

Wednesday, February 22

Racing Commission, 77 S. High St., Rm. 1960, Columbus, 10 a.m.

State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, March 22

State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, February 22

**Ohio Farm Bureau Ag Day at the Capital, Sheraton Columbus Hotel, 75 State Street, Columbus
Tuesday, March 21**

**Ohio Craft Brewers Association legislative reception, Wolf's Ridge Brewing, 215 N. 4th St.,
Columbus, 5 p.m.**

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

**Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin
Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers**

Click the # after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Thursday, February 16

Legislative Committees

House Finance: State Government & Agency Review Sub. (Chr. Faber, K., 466-6344), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

- Budget testimony from Optical Dispensers Board, Optometry Board, Dietetics Board, and Public Testimony.

House State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 116, 9 a.m.

HB 5 **MICROBUSINESSES** (Pelanda, D., Gavarone, T.) To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness." (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 12 **OFFICIAL STATE STRUCTURE** (Gonzales, A.) To designate the barn as the official historical architectural structure of the state. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 31 **GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING** (Cupp, R.) To abolish the Government Contracting Advisory Council. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 34 **PUBLIC NOTICES** (Hambley, S., Ryan, S.) To authorize certain state agencies, local governments, and other boards, commissions, and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

House Finance: Agriculture, Development & Natural Resources Sub. (Chr. Thompson, A., 644-8728), Rm. 018, 9 a.m.

- Budget testimony from OARDC and OSU Extension, Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board, Environmental Review Appeals Commission and Consumers' Counsel

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-7584), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Expansion Population - Ohio Medicaid Group VIII Assessment by Barbara Sears, Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid

Joint Education Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 9:30 a.m.

- Presentation from Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria on Ohio's Draft Accountability Plan for the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

House Aging & Long Term Care (Committee Record) (Chr. Arndt, S., 644-6011), Rm. 113, 10 a.m.

- Presentations by the Ohio Department of Aging and Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

House Finance: Higher Education Sub. (Chr. Perales, R., 644-6020), Ohio History Center, 800 E. 17th Ave., Cardinal Classroom, Columbus, 12 p.m.

- Budget testimony from Ohio History Connection, Ohioana Library Board, Ohioana Library Association

Agency Calendar

State Teachers Retirement System, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8 a.m.
School Employees Retirement System, 300 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.
~~**Canceled: Real Estate Appraiser Board, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.**~~
Children's Trust Fund, 77 South High Street, 31st Floor, Room East B, Columbus, 10 a.m.
Tuition Trust Authority, 77 S. High St., 31st Fl., West B&C, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

17 S. High St. Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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From: Reed, Bob
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 7:02 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: FW: Follow-up on H.B. 66
Attachments: Letter to state reps 2.19.2017.pdf

FYI....

From: HUGHES, JOEL [mailto:jhughes1@kent.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Follow-up on H.B. 66

Dear Representative Ron Young:

I emailed you on Friday regarding H.B. 66. I also called your office Monday AM and was able to speak with a member of your staff. I am emailing to reiterate my offer to discuss this further, to offer some alternative wording for the legislation that I think would be more able to accomplish your aims as well as being easier to pass, and to explain my position further. Also, I have attached a pdf of a letter that had already mailed to all members of the Committee for Higher Education and Workforce Development, so you will be aware of what they have received.

On Monday I was told that your office has received multiple complaints that some senior tenured faculty do not teach at all, and I am sympathetic to your position that all faculty should contribute to the undergraduate teaching mission of the university. I have been a lifelong Republican and voted a straight republican ticket in the most recent election (although I am registered as a Democrat because I wanted to vote against Hillary in the 2008 primary and I enjoy getting the informational emails from the Democratic Party of Ohio).

Although I do not know how to write legislation, I offer the following suggestions:

Revise: Sec. 3345.451. The board of trustees of each state institution of higher education, as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, shall charge the provost of each state institution of higher education to develop a faculty workload policy as follows. Each academic unit with a preponderance of undergraduate enrollment shall develop a workload policy and submit it to the provost. The workload policy shall require each of the unit's tenured faculty members to devote a minimum of 6 hours of their academic year workload to supporting the undergraduate teaching mission of the state institution of higher education. Typically 6 hours of academic year workload is equivalent to two 3 semester hour courses. Alternative means of supporting the undergraduate teaching mission shall be specified in the workload policy developed by the academic unit. Each academic unit shall submit their workload policy to the provost for approval. The provost shall submit approved workload policies to the board of trustees of their state institution of higher education.

Rationale:

- “shall charge the provost:” decentralizing this process allows each state institution of higher education to develop policies that best serve their undergraduate teaching mission. The provost is the most senior academic official at each state institution of higher education, would have the authority to enforce the intent of this legislation, and would understand local conditions in each academic unit.
- “academic unit with a preponderance of undergraduate enrollment:” tenure is held in academic units. Some colleges (e.g., college of medicine), schools (e.g., school of law), and departments do not have an undergraduate program. Most units have far more undergraduate students than graduate students, which are the units to which this legislation should apply.
- “6 hours of their academic year workload:” 6 hours is two 3 credit courses, but some faculty may need to teach both in one semester (e.g., some scientists may spend one semester in another country doing field work, some sabbaticals are a semester-long professional improvement leave).
- “Alternative means of supporting the undergraduate teaching mission shall be specified in the workload policy:” administrators (e.g., chairs, deans) retain tenure in their home academic unit but are not subject to the collective bargaining agreement and should not be required to teach

undergraduate courses. Some courses have semester hours differing from the modal number of 3 (e.g., 1 credit, 2 credits, 4 credits). Some faculty may have administrative positions such as running the writing center. Workload policy can accommodate these variances. Non-course teaching of undergraduates such as serving as the undergraduate curriculum coordinator, chairing senior honors thesis committees, mentoring of McNair scholars, and mentoring undergraduate research assistants can be defined with respect to their workload equivalencies. This could increase undergraduate involvement in faculty research, which is sometimes difficult for students to obtain given that these activities are not typically recognized as teaching.

Remove: Notwithstanding section 4117.08 of the Revised Code, the policies adopted under this section are not appropriate subjects for collective bargaining. Notwithstanding division (A) of section 4117.10 of the Revised Code, any policy adopted under this section by a board of trustees prevails over any conflicting provisions of any collective bargaining agreement between an employees organization and that board of trustees.

Remove: This section shall not affect any collective bargaining agreement or employment contract entered into prior to the effective date of this section. However, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code, the requirement of this section prevails over any conflicting provisions of a collective bargaining agreement or employment contract entered into on or after the effective date of this section.

Rationale:

- If this legislation is perceived as an attack on the collective bargaining unit (aka unions) then they will lobby against this legislation. Decoupling prioritizing the undergraduate mission from collective bargaining by contextualizing this legislation within existing contracts, collective bargaining or otherwise, may reduce this possibility.

Finally, I would appreciate it if you do not publicly link me with this legislation. Although I am a conservative republican, I am in a Department and University

dominated by liberal democrats. I am also the treasurer of the Kent State affiliate of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) aka faculty union. The executive board of AAUP-KSU may not appreciate my assisting a republican legislator, although they would probably not say so publicly. I would rather avoid drawing attention to my political views in the department and university.

If you are interested in discussing this further, or have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at 330-672-7721 or jhughes1@kent.edu.

Thanks,

Joel W. Hughes, Ph.D.

Undergraduate Curriculum Coordinator

Professor

Department of Psychological Sciences

Kent State University

Kent, OH 44242

330-672-7721

PS: I was pleased to discover that you are from Northeast Ohio and an alumnus of Kent State University, from my own Department of Psychological Sciences! Perhaps you remember Dr. Riccio, who is still on the faculty after over 50 years. I don't know what your experience was like at Kent State University, but I can assure you that in Psychology we have redoubled our efforts to improve the quality of the undergraduate education as higher education evolves. For example, a few years ago I was appointed the Undergraduate Curriculum Coordinator for the department. We developed a Bachelor of Science to complement the Bachelor of Arts. We developed

concentrations in Pre-medicine/Pre-osteopathy, Child Psychology, and Mental Health Careers. We hired a professional advisor and internship coordinator who resides in the Department in order to provide better service (we have subsequently hired a second advisor). We have developed a Psychology Scholars program to identify our high-achieving, high-ability students early in order to get them involved and serve them better. We have promoted for-credit internship experiences which we recognize are important for workforce development because they are highly valued by employers. We have created a professional development series as well as a course devoted to exploring career pathways in psychology and professional development. Therefore, I absolutely support efforts to improve undergraduate instruction at state universities and colleges in Ohio.



Joel W. Hughes, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Psychological Sciences
378 Kent Hall
Kent State University
Kent, OH 44242

Home address:
4850 June Avenue
Stow, OH 44224

Representative Mike Duffey
Chair, Committee for Higher Education and Workforce Development
District 21
77 S. High St
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

February 19, 2017

Re: H.B. 66

Dear Representative Mike Duffey:

It is my understanding that Committee for Higher Education and Workforce Development will soon be considering H.B. 66: "To amend section 3345.45 and to enact section 3345.451 of the Revised Code to require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester."

I am writing to ask that you consult with or seek testimony from faculty members of state universities and colleges.

As proposed, the bill will not accomplish what the primary sponsor intends. I will not speculate regarding the motivation or intent of Representative Ron Young, but have emailed and mailed him to ask for clarification of his purpose for this legislation. There are a number of deficiencies with this legislation as written.

1. "Permanently tenured" is not defined in the Ohio Revised Code or the policy register of Kent State University. It may not be a recognized term at most state universities and colleges. Thus, the legislation may not apply to anyone. Collective bargaining agreements allow for the dismissal of tenured faculty for cause (e.g., elimination of a department due to budget cuts), so despite public stereotypes, tenure is not "permanent." If a reasonable argument can be made that the legislation does not apply to any faculty in Ohio then it is not written correctly.

Department of Psychological Sciences
P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
330-672-2166 • Fax: 330-672-3786 • <http://www.kent.edu>

2. There are entire categories of tenured faculty who do not teach undergraduate courses because they are not in departments with undergraduate programs. Many if not all faculty in medicine, law, library science, etc. do not teach undergraduate courses. These are often professional programs with only graduate student enrollment at the masters or doctoral level. It would not serve the state's interests to require these faculty to teach undergraduate courses. For example, the contribution of a cardiologist in the College of Medicine at Ohio State University with a base salary of \$500,000 is likely through his or her clinical work, supervision of medical residents and fellows, scientific studies and research grants, and administrative roles. It would be very costly and inefficient for a cardiologist to divert time from these activities toward the end of teaching an undergraduate course in anatomy and physiology, for example. Furthermore, some faculty are in programs where they would have dubious expertise in teaching anything undergraduate students want to take. What undergraduate courses should a lawyer teach, given that there is no undergraduate program in law? Similarly, administrators are often granted tenure in the home department of their discipline. When the president, provost, etc. of a public university or college are tenured in History, English, Psychology, or whatever, why should they divert time from running the university toward the end of teaching a 3 credit hour undergraduate course every semester? The revenue generated from teaching pales in comparison to their salaries. If the legislation requires undergraduate teaching from faculty who by all accounts should *not* be teaching undergraduates, then it is not written correctly.
3. Finally, undergraduate teaching cannot be measured in classroom semester hours. It is true that collective bargaining agreements define workload in semester hours, but only a portion of this is classroom teaching. Much of student success takes place outside the classroom. In my own case, I have mentored dozens of undergraduate students in research, including the McNair Scholars Program, the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program, Senior Honors Theses, and other mechanisms for student involvement in research. My undergraduate students have been admitted to graduate programs in law, medicine, public health, business, and psychology (clinical, counseling, school, social, etc.) as well as various careers. Research experience is critical to the success of undergraduate students in many fields. A review of my CV reveals that my 100th journal article was published this year (Dolansky, M. A., Hawkins, M. A., Schaefer, J. T., Saftar, A., Gunstad, J., Redle, J. D., ... & Hughes, J. W. 2016. Association Between Poorer Cognitive Function and Reduced Objectively Monitored Medication Adherence in Patients With Heart Failure CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE. *Circulation: Heart Failure*, 9, 12, e002475.), but that the *lead author* for about 70% of these is a postdoctoral research fellow, graduate student, or undergraduate student. Clearly, faculty often leverage their program of research to promote student and trainee success at every level. Furthermore, faculty often facilitate internships in the community and other experiential learning opportunities. In my field, I understand that only 30% of the 100,000 annual graduates with a bachelor's degree in Psychology ever attend graduate school. In my department, we have learned that internships and professional skills are paramount to workforce development and successful entry into the workplace for students who finish with a bachelor's degree. We have prioritized workforce development in the Department of Psychological Sciences at Kent State University through improved advising, increased

Department of Psychological Sciences

P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001

330-672-2166 • Fax: 330-672-3786 • <http://www.kent.edu>

internship opportunities, professional development events, and the creation of a course devoted to exploring careers and preparing for life after graduation. Teaching efforts like these are sometimes, but not always, recognized with workload equivalencies that reduce classroom time for some faculty. However, when the workload value of research and experiential learning is reduced by mandated additional classroom teaching, it becomes less of a priority for faculty even though these are the most time-consuming activities for faculty and quite important for student success. If the legislation would have the effect of diverting time and effort from non-classroom teaching of undergraduates in activities vital for student success, then it is not written correctly.

I would note that although there are many more problems with this legislation that I could describe, I have refrained from political commentary or the promotion of any philosophical position on higher education. I have not joined the chorus of complaints that the increased costs to students and families of higher education in America are largely attributable to reduced state support of higher education, although that is an indisputable fact. I am trying to remain as fact-based as possible in suggesting simply that the legislation as written cannot accomplish any intended aim (unless of course, the legislation is pure political posturing with no rational basis for improving the public good, but I am not so cynical as to entertain that possibility of a democratically elected public official).

Again, I would urge the Committee for Higher Education and Workforce Development to consult with and hear testimony from state university and college faculty. Whatever the committee's deliberations on this matter, it should be informed and avoid unanticipated consequences that would be harmful for the very institutions the legislation appears to be attempting to influence.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact me at 330-672-7721 or jhughes1@kent.edu.

Sincerely,

Joel W. Hughes, Ph.D.
Professor

Enclosure: text of 132nd General Assembly Regular Session H. B. No. 66 from http://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/solarapi/v1/general_assembly_132/bills/hb66/IN/00?format=pdf

Cc: Representative Mike Duffey
Representative Niraj J. Antani
Representative Martin J. Sweeney
Representative Kathleen Clyde
Representative Jay Edwards
Representative Theresa Gavarone
Representative Wesley A. Goodman
Representative Catherine D. Ingram

Department of Psychological Sciences
P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
330-672-2166 • Fax: 330-672-3786 • <http://www.kent.edu>

Representative Rick Perales
Representative Craig S. Riedel
Representative Mark J. Romanchuk
Representative Kent Smith
Representative Paul Zeltwanger

Disclaimer: No university resources were used in the writing or mailing of this letter.

Department of Psychological Sciences
P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
330-672-2166 • Fax: 330-672-3786 • <http://www.kent.edu>

From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:35 AM
To: House>All
Subject: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Requiring Exempt State Employees to Pay Healthcare Premiums.pdf



**Representative Derek Merrin
47th District
MEMORANDUM**

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Derek Merrin
DATE: March 20, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance Premiums

I will be introducing legislation that requires exempt state employees to pay a portion of their dental, vision, and life insurance premiums. Exempt state employees currently pay 15% of their premium for medical insurance – while paying 0% of the premium for dental, vision, and life insurance coverage. This legislation requires exempt state employees pay the same percentage for dental, vision, and life coverage as they pay for their medical insurance premium.

Key Facts:

- By having exempt state employees pay 15% of their dental, vision, and life premiums, taxpayers would save at least \$2.6 million annually.
- Legislation would impact about 16,400 exempt state employees.
- Legislation directs the state to seek the same provision when negotiating collective bargaining agreements that cover about 35,900 unionized state employees, which would save taxpayers an additional \$4.7 million annually.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact my Legislative Aide, Blake Springhetti, at Blake.Springhetti@ohiohouse.gov or at (614) 466-1731 by **Tuesday, March 28 at 5:00 P.M.**

Sincerely,



Ohio House of Representatives



**Representative Derek Merrin
47th District
MEMORANDUM**

TO: All House Members
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Sincerely,



Derek Merrin
Ohio House of Representatives
House District 47
Office (614) 466-1731
Derek.Merrin@ohiohouse.gov
77 S. HighStreet
Columbus, Ohio 43215

From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:18 AM
To: House_All
Subject: Reminder: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Requiring Exempt State Employees to Pay Healthcare Premiums.pdf

Reminder: The deadline to co-sponsor is tomorrow at 5pm



**Representative Derek Merrin
47th District
MEMORANDUM**

TO: All House Members
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DATE: March 20, 2017
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Vision, and Life
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Ohio House of Representatives



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47th District
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Sincerely,



Derek Merrin
Ohio House of Representatives
House District 47
Office (614) 466-1731
Derek.Merrin@ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:02 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: House Journal Summary - March 30, 2017

House Journal Summary
THIRTY-FIRST DAY
(Regular Session)
March 29, 2017

INTRODUCED

- HB168** CEMETERY MAINTENANCE AND REGISTRATION (Rep. Dick Stein) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation.
- HB169** VISION DENTAL AND LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To require, with respect to insurance contracted for or provided by the Department of Administrative Services, an individual who is not covered by a collective bargaining agreement to pay the same percentage of the premium for vision, dental, or life insurance as the individual pays for health insurance.
- HB170** COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Mike Duffey) With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology grant program for the 2018-2019 school year; and to make an appropriation.
- HR45** TRAVEL ALLOWANCE (Rep. Cliff Rosenberger, Rep. Fred Strahorn) Relative to travel allowance.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

CIVIL JUSTICE:

- HB147** HUMANE SOCIETY AGENTS BRIBERY (Rep. Steve Hambley) To make changes to humane society law and to make humane society agents subject to bribery law.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

- HB137** MANDATORY REPORTING-CHILD ABUSE (Rep. Bernadine Kent) To make municipal and county peace officers mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect.
- HB141** INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER-CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Scott Wiggam) To provide that causing or contributing to the death of another person as a result of the offender's sale, distribution, dispensation, or administration of a controlled substance

or controlled substance analog is a violation of the offense of involuntary manslaughter and to make this offense a strict liability offense.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCE AND LABOR:

- HB138** PAY DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Janine Boyd) To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system for individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employers discriminating in the payment of wages.

EDUCATION AND CAREER READINESS:

- HB154** TRUCK DRIVER STUDENT AID (Rep. Ryan Smith, Rep. Nathan Manning) To establish the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid program and to make an appropriation.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

- SB2** ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS LAWS (Sen. Cliff Hite) To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection.

FEDERALISM AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS:

- HB142** NOTIFYING POLICE OF CONCEALED CARRY (Rep. Scott Wiggam) To eliminate the requirement that a concealed handgun licensee notify a law enforcement officer that the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun when stopped.

- HB151** FIREARM SALES BACKGROUND CHECK (Rep. Bill Patmon) To prohibit a transfer of a firearm from a person who is not a federally licensed firearms dealer to a person who is not a federally licensed firearms dealer unless it is done through a federally licensed firearms dealer, through a state or local law enforcement agency, or pursuant to a specified exception; to require that background checks be conducted when a firearm is transferred through a federally licensed firearms dealer or a state or local law enforcement agency; and to provide for recordkeeping with respect to information obtained pursuant to such a background check.

- HB152** HUNTING LICENSE FIREARMS (Rep. Bill Patmon) To require an applicant for a hunting license to specify whether the applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony and to require the license to specify "firearm restricted" if an applicant has so indicated.

- HB153** BAN IMITATION FIREARMS (Rep. Bill Patmon) To generally ban the manufacture, sale, alteration, and public display of imitation firearms and the disguising of a firearm to make it resemble an imitation firearm.

FINANCE:

- HB148** HOME IMPROVEMENT BOARD (Rep. Bill Patmon) To require statewide registration of home improvement contractors, to create the Home Improvement Board, and to make an appropriation.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT:

- HB132** FANTASY SPORTS REGULATION (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Robert McColley) To grant the Ohio Casino Control Commission the authority to regulate fantasy contests and to exempt fantasy contests from the gambling laws.

- HB144** STATIONARY WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES (Rep. Doug Green, Rep. John Rogers) To require motor vehicle operators to take certain actions

upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside.

- HB145** IMPAIRED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Robert Sprague) To provide for the establishment of a confidential program for the treatment of certain impaired practitioners and to declare an emergency.
- SB44** CAMPAIGN ELECTRONIC FILING (Sen. Frank LaRose) To allow certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those electronic statements available online.

HEALTH:

- HB131** PHYSICAL THERAPY LAWS (Rep. Theresa Gavarone, Rep. William Reineke) To modify the laws governing the practice of physical therapy.
- HB149** ABORTION TRAFFICKING PENALTY (Rep. Bill Patmon, Rep. Margaret Conditt) To expand the crime of abortion trafficking and to increase the penalty.
- SB57** DAY DESIGNATION-CANCER AWARENESS (Sen. Stephanie Kunze) To designate the seventeenth day of May as "Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day."

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

- HB133** DISASTER RELIEF ACT (Rep. Scott Ryan) To create the Disaster Relief Act to exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster.
- HB143** ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANY DEFINITION (Rep. Robert Sprague) To clarify the definition of "electric distribution company" for kilowatt-hour tax purposes.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

- HB134** SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To allow community improvements board grants to a school district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district.
- HB135** DAY DESIGNATION-SUPERMAN DAY (Rep. Bill Patmon) To designate June 12th as "Superman Day."
- HB139** PUBLIC RECORD DISCLOSURE EXEMPTIONS (Rep. Rick Perales, Rep. Candice Keller) To eliminate the public disclosure exemption for any permanently retained record 100 years after the date of its creation.
- HB146** CORONERS EDITING DEATH CERTIFICATES (Rep. Larry Householder) To allow a coroner to change the cause, manner, and mode of death in a filed death certificate only after a hearing in the court of common pleas.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY:

- HB136** ROAD DESIGNATION-DAVID SEXTON AND GLEN MILLINGER (Rep. Steve Arndt) To designate a portion of State Route 61 in Erie County as the "SGT David Sexton Memorial Highway" and a portion of Benton-Carroll Road in Ottawa County as "SGT Glen Millinger Memorial Highway."